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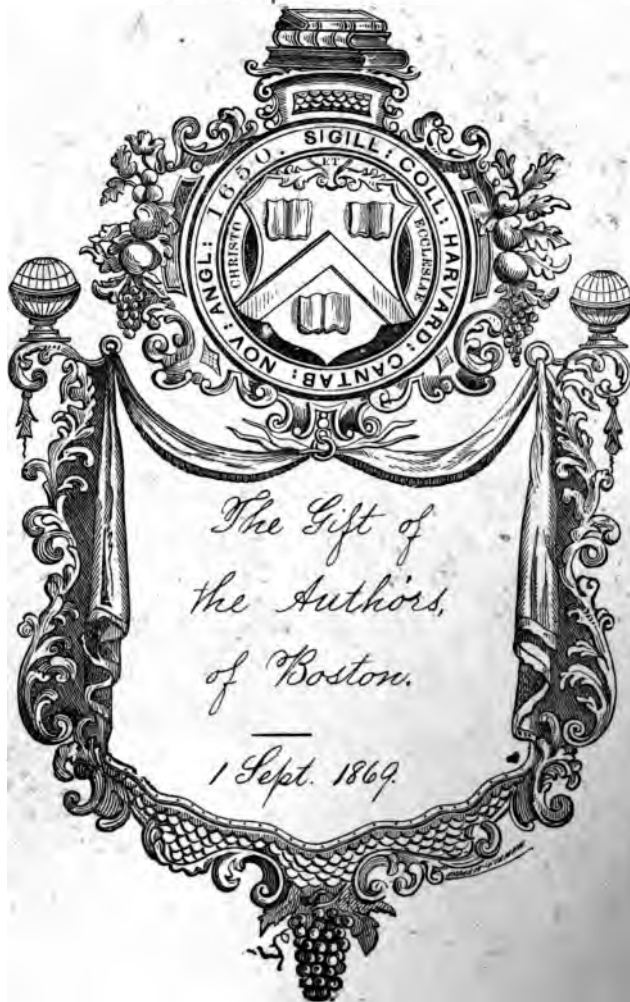
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COTTON CULTURE
AND
THE SOUTH
CONSIDERED WITH REFERENCE TO
EMIGRATION

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COTTON CULTURE

450

THE SOUTH

CONTINUED WITH REFERENCES TO

EMIGRATION.

E. W. LORING AND C. E. ATKINSON.

BOSTON -

A. WILLIAMS & CO., 106 WASHINGTON STREET.

1869.

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• OFFICE OF
LORING & ATKINSON,
COTTON BROKERS AND AGENTS,

NO. 69 WATER STREET, COR. CONGRESS, BOSTON.

WE lately issued a circular which was widely distributed amongst the cotton-planters of the South, with the hope of getting facts relating to the cotton-interest which might be of value to the cotton consumer, and at the same time might stimulate the production of the great staple by "showing to how slight an extent the capacities of the South for its production have as yet been developed," thus furnishing information which should do something to turn *Emigration and Capital* to the cotton belt of our country. Our Circular asked for detailed facts and opinions relative to the labor, the methods of cotton culture, and the general condition and capacities of the South. The number, the universal interest, and the consistent character of the replies have been most gratifying, and show an earnest intention on the part of the writers to give accurate information which should help to build up a true prosperity in their portion of the Union. We wish to return to all our correspondents,* without exception, our hearty thanks for the fulness and uniform courtesy of their answers.

* See Appendix.

The facts and opinions in our letters are so varied, the actual condition of things in different parts of the country so different, and the answers often from sources so naturally prejudiced that it is sometimes hard to form the right deductions. In the following digest we shall print full and numerous extracts from our letters, striving to give each variety of opinion its fair voice, and also to let the differences of the various sections of the cotton-belt speak for themselves. In all our statements we have sought by a careful study of the thousand and more pages of manuscript received to deduce from them only their just conclusions.

LORING & ATKINSON.

COTTON CULTURE AND THE SOUTH

CONSIDERED WITH REFERENCE TO

EMIGRATION.

CONDITION OF LABOR.

THE consideration of cotton culture as at present conducted at the South involves the consideration of its labor.

The opinions received in answer to our circular with regard to the condition of the liberated slaves and the effectiveness of their labor vary more and are more likely to be prejudiced than in regard to any other question connected with the South. Furthermore, their actual condition varies much in different sections of the cotton belt, which increases the difficulty of justly estimating their present state and future prospects. The following extracts give full and varied views of the labor problem :

Your general proposition that the cotton lands of the South have not been estimated in quantity may be proved perhaps by a shorter process than individual testimony. Take the area of the Cotton States, at 300,000 square miles. Take the labor of the colored people at 500,000 full hands. Take the labor of the whites at 100,000, and you may, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ or $3\frac{3}{4}$ bales to the hand, get the present crop, 2,250,000 bales. Remember that the freedmen have gone to various other occupations, menial and maritime — at least to river navigation — that many have emigrated North and West, and that there was a portion lost during the war. That our labor has shrunk greatly, is shown by the low price of cotton lands and by the reduction of the

labor to the best spots on the old plantations. We need emigrant capital and labor, machinery and an improved process of culture.

MAURY CO., TEXAS.

The great problem of cotton culture just now is the growing scarcity and worthlessness of our laborers. I am a Northern man, an ex-federal officer—have paid wages and treated my hands with the utmost kindness for the last three years, but find a growing dislike to being controlled by or working for white men. They prefer to get a little patch where they can do as they choose, where they raise corn, sometimes a little cotton, and steal their meat from the woods. I am paying \$12.00 apiece per month, but have only hands enough to work half my place, and have to be with them constantly to prevent their idling away their time. Hands are so scarce that if they are offended in any way (and they are very sensitive), they leave at once, knowing they will have no difficulty in getting another place. I have had a hand threaten to leave because he was told to use one plow when he wished to use another. We are dependent on them, and they know it. I fear that next year they will not work at all. Up to this time, owing to the ravages of the worm, every Northern man who has attempted to raise cotton, as far as my knowledge goes, has lost heavily.

MONTGOMERY CO., TEXAS.

The cotton region wants people. Negroes will never make neat and careful farmers. Cotton is a tender and delicate plant. Good culture and tender care increases its yield per acre. Any delay and loss of time in the picking season is disastrous. Negroes know nothing of the value of time, and will waste the season until storms, rain and cold come upon them, when it is impossible to pick. The care bestowed upon the picking of cotton materially affects its value. Negroes are good-natured and lazy, and ninety-nine out of a hundred are satisfied with their daily bread, and are willing for the morrow literally to take care of itself. The old hands are passing away. The young ones do not learn to work. No authority is exercised by parents to teach them to work or understand the value of time, industry and economy. The women have retired from the field, and prefer to make a precarious and vicious living than to work. Disease and destitution make fearful inroads upon them. Hence the Southern people give every possible inducement to encourage immigration. They

want a permanent and fixed population of good citizens. Negroes rove from place to place. They love change, and a month's work at a place, and are reluctant to make a year engagement. White people love home, take interest in making it pleasant, comfortable—as the spot from which issue all their money and comforts.

The negroes will disappear more rapidly than immigration will appear. The crops will decline, even at the stupendous prices and fabulous returns which it will give a man for his labor. Twice the number of white men will not make as much cotton as the slave did, for, as a general rule, the slave got his meat from the West, the mule he drove from Kentucky, and frequently the bread he ate was procured in the North. The white man will provide all this at home, at the expense of half his labor taken from cotton and devoted to the provision crop. Under the old system a negro would pick more than twice the amount of cotton as is possible for any man to pick who was not raised from childhood in the cotton field, and besides the skill acquired in a lifetime. His whole time and energies was devoted to cotton picking. He had no other duties, no other occupation during the picking season. The instantaneous immigration of four millions of souls into the South would not make the cotton crop reach this year, five millions bales.

ISSAQUENA COUNTY, MISS.,

From laborers great numbers of the negroes have been transformed into tenantry, which, although it may operate so as to produce a greater quantity of cotton eventually, still it takes the profit of production out of the hands of the planters, and further discourages the emigration of persons who would come to hire laborers. As for capital there never was more of it in proportion to its demand; in fact the country is full of money, and the larger number of negroes to whom I have leased land have paid half the rent in advance.

SOUTHERN LOUISIANA.

In regard to labor the present condition is bad; the prospective is worse. Labor is more scarce, harder to procure at the present time than any time since the close of the rebellion. It is also growing less every day; miscarriage and abortions have become as popular and dear to the negro women as freedom itself, and unless these things

change the negro race will, in marvellous short time, become extinct in the South. The cities and towns are full of labor, but it is next to impossible to get them to leave these places.

We must take last year as the maximum point to which the present system of labor can be used — five bales of cotton to the hand ; if the worms had not appeared possibly the crop might have gone as high as seven bales to the hand, — but then it is a question whether the hands who *make* seven bales of cotton, apiece, will gather the same — I doubt it very much. In 1860 a good cotton picker would gather from 12 to 15 bales of cotton, but under the present system I think seven bales is the *ultimatum* of their year's labor in cotton except, probably, a few isolated cases. Cotton cannot be raised for less than 20 cents per lb., and when, through any circumstances, the cotton crops of foreign countries will bring the price of the staple down to 12 and 15 cents, then cotton planting in the South (unless the system of labor is changed) will quickly decrease, and exist only in name.

We have here the finest agricultural country in the world, but we need labor and capital. There are many thousand acres of land which have been cultivated lands, well improved, and merely awaiting the time for the Levees to be built and labor to go upon it, to be as desirable farming lands as any in the world ; but these lands are yearly inundated, and are fast growing up in timber again, and never will be worth anything until the Levees are rebuilt. They (these lands) can now be bought for from \$2 to \$10 per acre, owing entirely to the necessities of the owners of the same. Put up the Levees and these same inundated lands will immediately sell for from \$10 to \$50 per acre ; for, in addition to their being as fertile as the Valley of the Nile, they cannot be excelled for stock raising.

In conclusion, I will say all we want is the Levees rebuilt, capital and *labor* to make this country "blossom as the rose."

UNION CO., ARKANSAS.

Among our present negro population are some very good laborers, especially such as have been trained from childhood to hard labor, but they are constantly diminishing in number ; they will not control their children nor allow any one else to do so ; consequently the rising generation will be worthless. My own opinion is they will gradually relapse into barbarism and disappear, as have done the Indian tribes before them, unless some compulsory system is adopted

to compel them to labor. If left to themselves, they will die in filth and rags before they will attempt an honest living.

On the subject of cotton culture, immigrants would soon learn from practical experience, the best mode of cultivation. The process is a simple one, no more difficulty than in corn or any other crop.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ARKANSAS.

The greatest difficulty we now labor under in the cultivation of cotton is the uncertainty and unreliableness of the labor of the blacks, as few of them have any idea of the obligations of a contract, and most of them will leave you in the midst of your crop if they thought it to their interest. They will not in three-quarters of cases carry out their agreement if they thought it to their interest to break it. It is not the price of the labor, but the uncertainty of it that makes it so objectionable. Give the cotton growing States a superabundance of laborers and they can raise over *forty million of bales of cotton* in one year.

JEFFERSON CO., ARKANSAS.

Just a month ago I shipped the last of our crop from Jefferson Co. farm, and in settling with the *hands*, paid out on the plantation \$7,000, due the hands for their portion of the crop, after clothing, feeding, and paying all expenses for them; and many hands in the neighborhood had had \$1,000 and \$1,500 net cash. Land is very cheap. Nearly all are anxious to sell a portion of their *land*, as they cannot get it cultivated. The negroes are fast disappearing—dying from indolence, and trying to live by *politics*, huddling around the towns in hovels, with fevers and all sorts of ailings, waiting for elections or some holidays. A great many are going back to their old homes in South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama, and also to the hills in this State, content to live on a bare sustenance of bacon and corn bread, which they can raise by easy or no labor.

WESTERN MISSISSIPPI.

In so vast a subject as the culture of cotton, which admits of so many exceptions, according to circumstances, and which depends perhaps more than any other on the proper conduct of details, it is almost impossible to give any general views. Since the war the

whole question has resolved itself into that of the efficiency of labor, all modes of treatment being subordinate.

As regards labor, the prospects are that it will steadily decline in quantity, owing to the restraints now removed from the negro population, the frequency of abortion among negro women, dying out of family relations, and want of care of the offspring. The greatest loss, however, in this region, occurred in the years 1863—4, when the negroes were received into the Union camps, where they flocked in great numbers, and died of epidemics. It is my experience and opinion that during those two years fifty per cent of the negroes in the region bordering upon the Mississippi river were lost. It is certain that afterwards, when nearly all had resought their homes, that the country had lost more than half its population ; and, notwithstanding the introduction of many from the older States, the same deficiency still exists. The cry, therefore, on all sides, is for laborers, and the negro, finding himself master of the situation, instead of availing himself of the high rates and advantages offered, prefers to make use of his power to reduce his labor, rather than increase his compensation. With the present price of cotton, nearly all persons could afford to double the rates of wages if they could depend, after incurring the expenses of stocking a plantation, upon the efficiency of labor ; but it seems to be admitted upon all sides, that compensation does not stimulate labor as elsewhere, the negro being controlled more through his local attachments and personal preferences, than by any pecuniary advantages. All plans for emigration, therefore, I regard of the greatest importance to this country, and for the increase of the production of cotton in the world, and I think that all experience teaches that nowhere can it be raised in such quantities, with as little labor, as here. In the choice of emigrants, I think that the Latin, rather than the Anglo Saxon races, should be preferred, as less likely to be affected by climate, nor do I think that the African emigration should be ignored, if any practical means for its introduction could be devised. I presume that it is well known on all sides that not one-tenth of the land in the Mississippi bottom has as yet been brought into cultivation, and that it is capable of producing the cotton supply of the world, if the labor were applied.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, MISS.

The freedmen work very well ; I have no trouble at all ; I have never had any trouble of any kind ; I treat them well, clothe and feed

them well, and pay them what I promise them ; settle with them as I would with a white man. I have no trouble in getting all the labor I want.

YAZOO Co., MISSISSIPPI.

The labor *now* in the South, will never materially enlarge the production. For, although the black population of this country in point of intelligence is very far ahead of any similar population heretofore manumitted, it retains the innate vice or defect of all tropical people ; indisposition to provide for the future by sustained industry and persevering efforts. The immediate wants of life provided for, they seem in the main to be satisfied ; and are careless, or rather thoughtless, of anything beyond. Superadded to this is a fact patent to all observers, that the number of births is rapidly diminishing among them, while of the children born, much fewer of them live than heretofore. The bill of mortality among the adults, too, both during and since the late war, has been very large. This, coupled with the fact that a large number of them refuse any longer to labor in the field, has left nearly one half of the cleared land of the country untilled ; and it will remain so until a tide of immigration shall flow in upon us. That this must come sooner or later no thinking man doubts. But why has it not already set in? It seems to me that capitalists have been blind to their own interests in not turning it in this direction long ago.

WESTERN MISSISSIPPI.

Free labor being all we have to depend upon to make cotton, etc., it ought to be of a good class, whose education should teach them industry — or else resort to Chinese Cooleys, who could be compelled to labor the year round, well fed and clothed.

White people make as much per hand as ever before, while the negro freedman, but half, if that. A good working white man, and a negro, also (if he would), can make and pick out ten (10) bales cotton of 450 pounds each, every year, and corn, peas, beans, wheat, etc., to feed a wife, and, say, four children. A child five years old can pick cotton.

The South is the richest country on earth. The people (just now), the poorest — no money, no rights, no voice, no friends, and Government are their enemies.

The cotton States can take 10,000,000 agriculturists, and 5,000,000 of manufacturers and mechanics, and have none too many. The free negroes are so demoralized by their enfranchisement (of which they know nothing), that they are in perpetual expectation that Government will provide for them by bestowing on them all the lands, mules, horses, cattle, etc., and therefore only work to support life, expecting to be enriched by Government and politicians. I have a freedman (formerly my slave), who has picked out, when a slave, 30 bales cotton in one season. Last year he picked three only, ending about the same period of the year. They are becoming of less value to the world every day, and will only work to cover actual wants, with few exceptions, of course. I have three families (formerly my slaves), who have remained steadily with me, who from nothing, are worth from \$1,000 to \$1,500 in money, stock, etc., to-day. They yielded to my advice. This number, out of 225 (which I was relieved of without any effort on my part); the balance are all trash, paupers, consumers, worse than army worms, and strange to say, they are quite as intelligent as the prosperous ones; but generally good slaves made poor freedmen. At this writing, Saturday, 3d February ultimo, one-fourth the plantations ought to be ploughed up, and now everything is behind. They have all quit work, and if I object, they will all quit me, and go to my nearest neighbor, who stands ready to employ them.

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI.

Planters cannot rely upon freedmen as laborers; as a general rule they are unreliable in their contracts both as domestics and farm laborers. They are a wonder-seeking, credulous, improvident people, sometimes leaving neighborhoods *en masse*, deserting comfortable homes for something better. A very large number of finely improved tracts of land throughout the State of Mississippi cannot be cultivated the coming season for want of labor.

ISSAQUENA COUNTY, MISS.

The freedmen in this section in some instances are working as well as in former years, and on an average are doing finely. Their labor, with anything like good seasons and a fair price for the staple, will prove highly remunerative to the planter.

I divide my hands into six companies, with a foreman at the head of each one. I have succeeded in getting a great many rails split and almost my entire fencing repaired.

In consideration I allow the freedmen two acres extra land for their families to cultivate. My mules are all in fine order, and the greatest care is taken of them by the laborers.

The first year or two after emancipation they were most unmerciful to the stock. In one year I lost 8 mules through bad treatment. Last year I lost only *one* from *colic*.

TUNICA CO., MISS.

The most noticeable fact in connection with the negro, is the very few young children amongst them. On my place and that of my brother-in-law adjoining, there are about eighty negroes, and not over a half dozen children; where, before the war, there would have been from twenty-five to thirty. I think that in twenty-five years, a negro will be almost as great a curiosity as an Indian.

MONTGOMERY CO., ALA.

There is no doubt but the negroes will work well; all they want is to see some good active Yankees to lead them on in the way of work; they never saw white people work, or seldom. I have a fine farmer from Ohio who astonishes the negroes; he leads them, and works to an advantage.

MOBILE, ALABAMA.

The negroes in the cotton States are rapidly disappearing by disease — while production has almost ceased from the same cause, and this state of things will go on until the race is extinct — not as fast, perhaps, in the future as in the last four years, from the fact that the more intelligent will learn to provide for and take care of themselves.

The black labor for the crop of 1869 is not equal to that of 1868, and there is no remedy for this alarming evil, but by stimulating immigration. Again, the free negro is by no means equal to the slave for producing, from the fact that he is notoriously indolent, and will not work as white laborers do. I am clearly of the opinion that, to produce cotton, either in quantities or at prices which are desirable, we must abandon the idea of relying upon the negro, and look for white labor. The question then is, Can white men labor in this climate? I desire not only to answer this in the affirmative, but to say that they can perform more labor in the year than they do in New England, or the West. So far as health is concerned, sober, prudent people enjoy better health here than with you.

Excuse me for suggesting any political difficulties in the way of managing the negro. As effective a laborer as he is capable of, it is a point that should be understood at the North, for the good of all parties, the negro included. It is this ; the people of this section of country should have the right to make all laws necessary for the good government of the citizen, and thus prevent idleness and vagrancy, which are only productive of demoralization and crime.

A gentleman from Courtland County, Ala., says labor in his neighborhood "shrinks, and goes on to say :

By the word "shrinks" I mean that the labor of the freedmen becomes more and more inefficient. Now, in 1867 they made contracts the first week in January, and commenced work on the second. In 1868 they made contracts 20th January and commenced work the next week. In 1868 they made contracts 25th January and commenced work 8th of February. I have carefully noted on the labor account of the hands, the number of days they worked in 1868 (exclusive of the wet and cold days, which were too inclement), and they averaged three days out of four, instead of six out of seven.

This year the proportion will be less of work ; instead of Saturday afternoon, they give indications of resting all Saturday. Instead of a week, in 1868, for rest when the crop was laid by, they took two, and saved only a half supply of fodder, which is now worth thirty dollars per ton on the plantations. If our winters were as mild as they are in the British West Indies, and we had the same abundance of tropical fruits there would be fully as great a failure of the black labor here as there was there after emancipation. What is to make the difference ? In 1860 we planted 10 acres of cotton to the hand, besides six to seven in corn. Now, although I and many of my neighbors require seven, others rest satisfied with five of cotton to the hand. It is estimated that one-half of the cleared land in this valley lies uncultivated.

BARBOUR COUNTY, ALA.

I am decidedly of the opinion that, under the present system of labor, our crops will continue to decrease every year. There are a great many planters this year who have rented a portion of their farms to the freedmen who will fail to realize anything like the crops usually

made under their own supervision — when four bales to the hand could be reasonably expected ; under the renting system they will not make more than one. A very suicidal policy on the part of both planter and laborer ; but why, you will ask, does the land-owner resort to this method ? From the fact, often, that he cannot procure labor under any other terms, and he takes this plan to realize a *bare support* from the rent of his land. The freedman is satisfied so he can *set up for himself*, as his wants are “few and far between,” and those wants he can supply himself and his half a dozen other non-producers with, if they are within five miles of his hut — with no conscience as to right of property. On account of their depredations, we who formerly raised a plentiful supply of meat and stock of every description, have had to abandon it entirely, depending wholly upon the markets of the west.

With the gradual decrease of labor, its inefficiency, and the great many disadvantages we encounter, the fact I think is very apparent that the cotton crops of this country will never exceed, if they ever reach, the crops of the last two years.

FORKLAND CO., ALABAMA.

Under the old system, we tended at least fifteen acres in cotton, and six or seven in corn, to the hand, counting women as full hands. Now we cultivate ten acres in cotton, six or seven in corn, which is tended principally by the males, girls and boys — losing about one-fourth of the labor, for women were as efficient as men — in working and picking cotton. In this respect we cannot expect any change ; for it is a matter of pride with the men, to allow all exemption from labor to their wives, which encourages matrimony at a very early age among girls. The young men, too, unrestrained by parental authority, and regardless of legal prohibitions, are growing up with very idle and licentious habits. The old, trained hands are our chief reliance in making a crop. Such as were once considered second-rate, are now the best.

The rural districts are being rapidly depopulated by their preference for towns and villages. The men had rather make a precarious living by doing little jobs, and picking up things that don't belong to them, than regular daily labor. The women, to get in as house servants when they can, or secure patronage in a disreputable manner, when their personal attractions elicit notice. Railroads and steamboats

draw many from the plantation, by giving more ready wages, and the excitement of that kind of life. All such are totally demoralized, and are forever unfit for plantation service. They are unruly, insolent, and disobedient, and will not "*stick*." Such as have been to those places, and engaged in those pursuits, can find no employment by me, on *any* terms. I tried several, recently, from Mobile.

TENNESSEE.

Many of our customers report much difficulty in making contracts for labor this year. In some cases where the freedmen have money, they are not inclined to work, and others wish to lease or buy land and set up as planters on their own account. We regard this as a doubtful experiment—some of course will succeed; but, the great body of them—like children heretofore provided for, and controlled by others—unaccustomed to self reliance and managing even for themselves, they will find many difficulties arise that they will not be prepared to surmount. Should their mules or horses die, or their supplies of food or clothing give out, with no money, they will find much greater difficulty in getting aid from merchants than the successful white man with property and credit even without ready money.

BALDWIN CO., GEORGIA.

The free negroes, poor creatures, are lost. A remnant of labor yet lingers in the field, but daily diminishes; the women have quite retired, and so too have the children; while the number of negro men for the fields grow daily less, and will never be recruited, as the young negro is coming forward utterly untrained, and intolerable. 465,000 blacks will of course remain a good while if peace reigns; they cannot be soon absorbed or annihilated by 600,000 whites—nearly an equal number; but with increasing degree and great certainty, white labor is returning to the fields of Georgia.

The free negroes of Georgia will not deteriorate so fast as those of Jamaica, because they are more in the presence and competition of white men, and the country is not insular.

The labor value of the free negro, as a cotton producer, is greatly impaired by his indiscriminate political privileges, which subject him to all the low acts and corrupting appeals of demagogues in our present form of popular government. Imperial government is an imperious necessity for a country that mixes four million negroes with an equal

white population on equal terms. As our once beautiful system of States, is gone now, we need Caesar. Hail Caesar ! happy if he be Julius ; contented, if he be Tiberius. Anything but a negro democracy.

MIDDLE GEORGIA.

Nothing definite can be predicted in reference to the prospective condition of labor. There has been some improvement in the colored labor, especially when the white race preponderates. If confidence could be established between the races ; if the farm-owner could depend on the colored people as *truly* and *reliable* laborers ; if the colored people were *free* to believe that the farm-owners were their friends, would not oppress them, would deal honestly and fairly by them, prosperity would be reassured.

DANBURY COUNTY, GA.

Our negro labor is fast playing out, and in the course of a few years the negro will be worthless in the cotton fields. All the negro women are out of the fields, doing nothing, and a great many of the men are loafing around the towns ; our climate is such that his wants are easily supplied, and a little work will do it, the same is true of our, or part of our, white men, and if we could get good immigrants to come and lease or buy our lands, and work on a small scale, and manure highly, it would pay.

MUSCOGEE COUNTY, GA.

The labor question is the great question at the present time with the South, and especially in connection with the cultivation of cotton, and all theories upon that question will prove failures when put in practice. The negro is the only successful laborer that can be put in the field to cultivate and gather a crop of cotton, and the reason of the scarcity of that kind of labor is because of the interposition of the Freedman's Bureau, and a few Northern adventurers coming South since the freedom of the negro, loaded with Attleboro jewelry, and telling the negro all sorts of tales as to the blessings that freedom would bring them—that, in short, there would be no more hoeing cotton and digging the potato—that they would receive forty acres of land, a mule, and plenty of provisions from the Government, if they would just vote for them or some other Radical for Congress, or any other office.

The credulous fools believed every word of it, and many of them believe it to this day; and such and similar tales not only caused all the women, boys and girls to quit the farms and gather around the villages and towns, but many of the men did the same thing, and hence the scarcity of labor—the women all set up and do nothing except watching opportunities to pilfer and steal to *eke out* a miserable existence. The mortality among the negroes has been at least three hundred per cent greater since they were made free than it was when they were slaves.

DEKALB CO., GEORGIA.

“Planters have had great difficulty in obtaining hands since the surrender, from many causes, in 1866—the idea of the negro being free was a hard one to get over, and many were disposed to put all the blame on him. Then, a great many took advantage of his ignorance, and made unfair contracts, or sold him liquor and goods on credit, and at the end of the year he only realized one fact, that he had worked hard and had nothing. In 1868, the surplus from the sale of cotton at twenty-five cents, instead of being invested in more land, and more negroes, was put into railroads, and like enterprises, which have taken thousands of hands out of the fields.”

DEKALB CO., GEORGIA.

Just returned from a long tour through what is known as the cotton region of the State of Georgia. I went down there in January, and have been there until now (April 11). I am, therefore, very well prepared to reply to your circular.

After thoroughly acquainting myself with the whole State (and Georgia is in more prosperous condition than any other Southern State), it is my decided opinion that the culture of cotton, and its production, will not increase, but on the contrary, must decline, unless we can get more labor. No man ever yet labored because he loved it, and especially in the sun—and laborers can get rich too fast at cotton selling at twenty-five cents per pound, to make them stick to it. Before the war, when a planter sold his cotton, and found himself with ten to twenty thousand surplus, his first thought was to buy more land and more negroes, and thus the finest portion of our land was converted into a vast negro quarter, and it is a fact that in the richest neighborhood of Sumter Co., Ga., there was neither a church, nor a school-house.

We had no towns and villages, because these large planters bought all their supplies in New York and Louisville, and spent their surplus in Europe, and at Saratoga. Now, the negroes are paid off, and spend all they make with the storekeeper and the Jews. (I heard of a Jew selling a negro a little twenty-five cent magnet, the other day, for thirty dollars — telling him it would keep a white man from cheating him !) This is building up our towns. The planter, not knowing what to do with his surplus, is putting it into railroads and factories. This takes off thousands of hands from agricultural pursuits, for a negro won't plough at ten dollars per month, when he can get twenty dollars on a railroad ; and to my knowledge, labor representing at least fifty thousand bales of cotton—is now employed on railroads in southwestern Georgia. This would all do very well if there was anybody to step in and take their places. This scramble for labor makes certain men persuade negroes to break their contracts, and thus their idea of the moral force of contracts is weakened, and labor thus becomes uncertain. These things render it certain, in my opinion, that unless we can get immigrants here from the North or from Europe, of even the present crop of cotton will decrease. It is true that there will be more cotton patches in the upper latitudes, and more cotton raised by white men, but not enough to make up for the lack of labor in the cotton belt. I am sure that there are this day ten counties in Georgia that are capable of making more cotton than is now raised in Georgia. I do not speak wildly, or without a full knowledge of what I am stating — that the State of Georgia is capable of producing, and will produce, under a well regulated system of labor, at least two million bales of cotton.

With reference to the labor question — disavowing any unfriendly feeling to the black race — for I entertain towards them only sentiments of kindness and pity — my strong convictions compel me to say, that if the world expects from them a supply of cotton, the anticipation is doomed to disappointment. Every year the number of laborers is becoming smaller, and the labor less efficient ; the coming generation are not being trained to work, and there is a strong tendency to seek other employments in preference to the more laborious task of cotton planting. Cotton planting requires continuous labor during the whole year, and is the most tedious of all crops. But, admitting that by a different system of cultivation, and the help of commercial manures,

a much larger amount of cotton could be made, still there is the insurmountable difficulty of gathering it. I have no commercial manures, not because I do not approve of their use, but because I can make more cotton without their use than I can harvest. I know of no invention, either in use, or ever likely to be made, by means of which cotton can be successfully picked. The human hand alone must do it. We want and must have, a large increase of more efficient labor to make the South again prosperous, that she may contribute her fair proportion of wealth to the world.

I am glad to report the improvement in labor, I have no doubt it will continue to improve as its relations to capital come to be better understood, and as its benefits are realized both to individuals and society.

We take the liberty of copying from the Memphis "Avalanche" the following by J. T. Trezevant, Esq., which contains much *information*:

"In 1860 (see abstract census, p. 131), there were 3,950,000 slaves in the Southern States; 1,150,000 being in Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Missouri. This left 2,800,000 in the cotton states. One-half of these, or 1,400,000, were between the ages of 15 and 60; and no planter will say that he ever had more than half his negroes in the cotton field. From this, 1,400,000 must be deducted house-servants, mechanics and negroes, in cities, towns, etc., not engaged in producing cotton. It is not probable, therefore, that we ever had 1,300,000 slaves thus employed. If they averaged four bales to the hand—men and women, old and young—the production would be about as much as the large crop of 1860. This was under a system of labor thoroughly trained and under the most industrious and energetic management. Then, there were few idlers and no paupers. How is it now? Not more than half of the 1,300,000 former slaves can now be found in the field. Thousands have sought the haunts of cities and town, and the females seldom work.

It is at least pretty certain that not more than 800,000 negroes can be counted, to-day, as field hands, and the general estimate does not exceed two and a half bales to the hand. Put it at three, the crop

would then be 2,400,000 bales. Add 200,000 for the production of white labor, and we have a crop of 2,600,000. Can it exceed 3,000,000 bales? I confess it does not seem that the present labor system of the South can reach that figure, save in an extraordinary season. It *may* be done; perhaps 4,000,000 bales may be reached *if we neglect food*; but would not that be paying rather dearly for the extra million bales? Year by year, food is steadily advancing in price. There are thousands here who remember when they could buy corn at twenty to thirty cents, and wheat at fifty cents per bushel, and pork at four to five cents per pound or \$12 per barrel. What are the prices now! Double and treble what they were years ago. There is a powerful agency producing this. From 1840 to 1850, the increase of our country population was about thirty per cent, that of the cities upward of eighty per cent. In 1800, our city population was one in eleven of the whole population. In 1860 it was one in nearly every five. In other words, our food producers are rapidly becoming less numerous as compared with the whole population, and hence the opinion that food will not fall much in prices. Great Britain slaughtered one million less hogs last winter than the winter before; and the Northwestern States 300,000 less. In 1868 the corn crop was sixty million of bushels less than the crop of 1860, eight years ago. Remember, too, that every year we are receiving about 250,000 souls from Europe, who seldom produce food the year they arrive, but are constant consumers. Does this look like a fall in the price of food? With facts like these, can our people think it best to raise four million bales of cotton and *buy* their food from the Northwest? A small crop of cotton will bring more money than a large one. The five million bales of 1860, at ten cents a pound, brought but \$250,000,000. The crop of 1868, estimated at 2,300,000 bales, at an average of 25 cents, will bring \$287,500,000. It is then evident that a half crop will bring more money than a very large one. *The truth is, if the south will raise food in abundance for all her wants, she cannot exceed three million bales. The labor is not here.* The present cotton producers are generally trained hands. When these pass away, their successors will be less numerous and still less reliable. Skill and improved machinery may cultivate more land, but human fingers alone can gather the crop. Hence the conclusion that, with an abundance of food, the South cannot possibly raise cotton enough to put the price under twenty cents for some years.

If, in addition to all this, she will also enter largely into manufacturing all the shirting, sheeting, etc., she needs, she will save an immense profit now paid out to New England on these fabrics. In 1860 the Southern States spun *one-third* of all the cotton *yarns* used in the whole Union, but wove *only one-twentieth* of all the *cloth*. Why may we not produce the cloth as largely as the yarn? There can be no doubt as to the profits.

I do not regard it as possible, even were it desirable, to increase our negro population. That race has never so rapidly multiplied anywhere, and never been found so civilized and Christianized as under the influence of constant contact with the whites of the Southern States. The guardianship of the latter having been withdrawn, the former will rapidly lapse into semi-barbarism and gradually disappear. No two distinct nations, even of the same race, ever lived peaceably together, *as equals*, under the same government. Such an instance is found nowhere in all history. If this be so of nations of the same race, how must it be with nations of different races? It has been aptly said that the Saxon race would always *exterminate* those whom they could not *subjugate*; and the fate of the American Indian illustrates it. The negro race is doomed. Its ultimate fate is but a question of time. Is it desirable to increase such a population! Would we gain anything but mere numbers, whose moral and intellectual degradation would be but food for corrupt politicians? Is it not vastly better for us to populate our waste lands with a class of whites who will have some pride of race and some regard for their political rights and duties? If the South is to be peopled with millions who are to be our equals, in the name of Heaven let it be with men of our own color and race.

OGLETHORPE COUNTY, GA.

You will never see three millions bales of cotton raised in the South again unless the labor system is improved. Why?

Answer 1st. Because one-third of the hands are *women* who *now* do not work at all.

2d. At least one-fourth of the *males* have abandoned farmwork and have congregated in towns and cities.

3d. Those who do work *now* are not more than half hands. Put all these fractions together and you have this result; seven-twelfths of the laborers are not in the *field* (I mean black labor), and the white

force (who have gone to work *with a will*), to the working colored population and perhaps you may make the sum of efficient workers sixth-twelfths, or one-half of its former number.

Our correspondents are unanimous in showing that there was a decided difficulty in obtaining hands in 1868, and that although not universal, yet it was felt more or less all over the South. More cotton was lost for want of pickers in the bottom lands last year than in the upland, owing, probably, to the latter having suffered from the ravages of the worms, although much was lost even there.

Furthermore, the general opinion seems to be that labor will be less reliable and harder to obtain this year, 1869, than last. Only two planters out of all who have filled in our blanks, or who have written to us, thought there would be *more* in the future, — they did not state whence it was to come. Finally, as additional evidence of the dearth of labor, the burden of the answers to the question, "What are the chief needs of your neighborhood?" is, Laborers, laborers, reliable laborers, and an almost universal cry for emigrants! emigrants!! — men who work with their *brains* as well as with their hands.

One may gather from the above that the condition of labor in the cotton belt is not very satisfactory, yet we are inclined to think it is better than it seems, and, without counting the hoped-for immigration, that it is slowly improving. It can be safely stated that the labor power at present is not more than one-half what it was in 1860. This decrease is due both to an actual decrease of the number of laborers as well as a decrease of *effectiveness* of those that remain, which last is shown by the decreased yield to the hand now obtainable compared with that before the war — a fact which is *very strikingly* noticed in our answers. Mr. Dickson puts it as high as "three freedmen equal

to one slave," and many would agree with him. Before the war, the best planters in Georgia and South Carolina made from 5 to 8 bales to the 1 hand. Mr. Dickson has made 11; the average was probably 5 to 7. Now, the best planters make from three to five; the average is hardly $2\frac{1}{2}$; the decrease of effectiveness, however, varies *very* much in different parts of the South; in some sections a day's labor now is equal to the same before the war. To add another evidence, we will mention the decided statistical decrease of yield to the acre, compared with *ante bellum* times, which seems to be equal to about a quarter of a bale to the acre, and which arises from many causes, but among them the inefficiency of labor holds an important place.

Some of the causes that have produced this unsatisfactory condition of the black labor on the cotton fields are shown in our letters, and are:

1st. The tendency of the plantation negroes to gather in the cities and large towns, where, as a rule, they rapidly become consumers without being producers, and contrive to earn a precarious subsistence by a little work and a little thieving.

The evidence goes to show that they seldom come back to the fields again, or at any rate it is hard to induce them to. Their condition in the country is far better than in the city, where it often is deplorably bad. We believe this to have reached its worst, and the case now to be improving.

2d. The desire of the laborer or freedman to be entirely independent of white men, and therefore the tendency to "set up for himself," usually by "squatting" on the piny lands of the uplands. Nothing could be more encouraging than this if experience proved that their labor in such cases was productive; but we regret to say that it seldom

amounts to much ; they may support themselves ; it does not take much to do that ; but they seldom raise much to sell, and do not show that thriftiness that is necessary to successful small-farm culture. Even where there is a desire to work, and when the squatter has been a plantation hand all his life and certainly ought to know the routine of cotton raising, yet, owing to his having, in his former condition of slavery, been simply a tool, he has not learned to think for himself, and is very apt to commit some mistake in culture that hurts, perhaps spoils, his crop. The freedman as a freeman must in time learn, however, by example and experience ; and doubtless the time will come when much cotton will be raised by freedman landholders, without supervision. Even now we know of exceptional cases where satisfactory results are to be seen.

3d. The fact that a very large proportion of the women have left the fields and stay at home in the cabins. *This*, in looking to the future, is a serious loss, one over which there is no control, though we believe at an emergency they would pick again for a time, and if we had 3,000,000 bales on the fields this fall and an average picking season, the evidence would show that it *could* be gathered, though it would be possible only by their help.

4th. Increased mortality and a decreased number of births. The *first* owing to ignorance in treating disease ; causing a small trouble to become fatal, — inability to get medical attendance, and ignorant and superstitious use of herbs and charms, even when a doctor can be obtained ; also to want of care of the children, from ignorance or wilful neglect, as well as the peculiar sensitiveness of the negro physique, which has been strongly marked by the mortality which has followed their change of condition, outward surroundings and comforts, in the passage from slavery to

freedom. (This is especially marked in those of mixed blood.) In the great "contraband" camps during the war the mortality, due chiefly to this cause, was frightful. But as the negro grows accustomed to his new condition the tendency disappears.

The *second* owing to prostitution and abortion, which, in the cities, and to a less extent in the country, is frightfully prevalent.

5th. Political excitement has in some parts of the cotton belt very seriously interfered with work.

6th. The desertion of the cotton fields for other occupations — such as work on railroads, &c. It is estimated that hands representing 50,000 bales are working on railroads in S. W. Georgia, beside which the *large* number of new railroads that are being built in other parts of the South, are constructed chiefly by black labor.

7th. The effect of the possession of money on the freedman. While largely remunerative returns from labor stimulate the white man to greater exertions, the effect of the possession of money on the freedman is not yet the same. When he gets his wages, he likes to "*loaf*" until it is spent, a tendency which is aggravated by the hot climate, and which is particularly unfortunate in cotton raising, which requires such *continuous* labor.

8th. The loss of life during the war. The white labor available for cotton raising before the war bore, of course, a very small proportion to the black, and the war undoubtedly reduced this supply, such as it was. Mortality among the negroes also was great, both in the camps, where they were used as servants, teamsters, &c., as well as on the immense fortifications constructed throughout the South. In both cases they were herded together, and their ways of life entirely changed so that disease was unchecked.

Such are some of the causes which have reduced the *amount* of labor ; the causes which have reduced its quality can be easily seen, and are discussed by those better qualified than we. The change from slavery to freedom, the overturning of the old political structure and building up a new system of labor and local government, have caused it, combined with the laziness caused by a hot climate, and the ease of getting a subsistence. Thus the indolence of the negro has free scope, now that he has power to choose whether to work or be idle. It yet remains to be seen what will be the ultimate effect of freedom upon him.

What are the remedies for the present unsatisfactory condition of labor ? Some of them are :

1. More confidence and better relation between employer and employed.
2. Liberal use of fertilizers, both home-made and bought. Free salt to be used as a fertilizer.
3. Improvement in the method of culture, use of improved tools, labor-saving machines, and more system and economy on the farm.

And the following changes in the general condition of the South.

4. Political quiet and stability.
5. Education of the young.
6. Immigration of labor and capital.
7. A change from the old plantation system to new methods ; prominent—we think *chief*—among which stand division into and cultivation of “ *small farms*.”

RELATION BETWEEN EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYED.

There are two systems of employing laborers at the South, by share and by wages. In the *share* system the usual arrangement is that the laborer receives *half* the corn

and cotton when he "finds" himself. If rations are given they reduce the share of the laborer to *one-third* or *one-quarter*. At times on the *share* system, the labor goes against the land, the laborer and land-owner dividing all other expenses between them. In the above cases, the usual practice is for the employer to supply cabin and fuel for his laborer (with a garden patch free of rent, for his vegetables, etc.,) and tools, seed, teams and feed for the same. But frequently the laborer bears half the cost of seed and fodder — in some instances, even half the cost of repairs of tools.

The usual weekly ration is four pounds mess pork or bacon; twelve pounds corn meal (sometimes seven and one-half pounds corn, and three and one-half pounds white flour); one pint of molasses; often one-half pound sugar and one-fourth pound coffee is added. This whole ration is valued at about one dollar and fifty cents.*

Where the land-owner gives *only* the land, the laborer becomes practically a tenant, paying *one-quarter* of the cotton, and *one-third* of the corn, as rent, and keeping fences, etc., in repair, and finding his own teams, tools, seed, etc. If the land-owner furnishes the latter, the crops are divided.

In the wages system the monthly pay varies from five

* Yet another system has been pursued, this and last season, by some planters — that of fencing off the plantation into lots of say fifty acres each, with cabins a quarter of a mile or so apart, placed in each lot near the woods, so that the laborer can keep hogs, and fronting on a main avenue. Each lot is cultivated by a squad of eight to ten laborers, who own the teams, and feed themselves — the land-owner feeding the mules — and receiving one-half the crops, in the cultivation of which he has supervision. It is presumed that the fact of the laborer owning the teams insures better treatment, as the negro is frequently accused of cruelty to animals when he has no pecuniary interest.

Some such arrangements as these have been found to work very successfully indeed, and we find the "tenant system for freedmen," as it is called, in operation to a greater or less extent in all parts of the South, and growing in favor. It is a sort of connecting link between the old gang plantation system and the small farm or peasant system.

to fifteen dollars, sometimes more, according to the value of the hand, and to whether rations are given or not, — women commanding less than men. Payments are, in some cases, made yearly — pay-day coming just before Christmas. Now and then planters give the hands half of each week, and all the land he can cultivate, to himself, paying wages for the remaining three days.

Col. Lockett's system, of Georgia, has some peculiarities which may be of interest. We copy from the "Albany News":

Col. Lockett hires exclusively by the year, and pays his greenbacks at the end of each quarter. He classifies laborers and hires accordingly, stipulating the wages for first, second and third classes; and adds thereto one ration — four pounds of bacon and one peck of meal to the laborer, per week. He ignores the co-partnership or share plan altogether, and the peace, good order, contentment and success of his plan demonstrate it as the true policy.

When he has contracted with the laborer, he simplifies the contract by reducing the amount agreed upon to per diem pay. Thus, if he agrees to pay a first-class hand \$175 for the year's work, he runs the working days through it, and the laborer learns that he is to get 56 cents per day, or \$3 36 every Saturday. This simplification is not only necessary to enable the simple-minded laborer to keep his own accounts, but is necessary to enable the manager to keep a correct time book, for the time is still further divided into hours and half hours, and the laborer knows that he is docked by the manager for every hour and even half hour he loses during working hours.

This system stimulates a determination on the part of first-class hands to retain that high distinction, and operates as an incentive to the lower classes to merit promotion; while the docking, or, as they call it, "ducking," inspires a wholesome fear of falling short of the \$3 36 at the close of the week.

The ration is furnished only to the regular hired laborers, but provisions are kept on the place and furnished to them for the non-laboring members of their families, at an advance on cost just sufficient to cover expenses and interest on money expended therefor.

Comfortable houses are provided for their families, free of charge, and garden spots are allotted to them.

At the end of each quarter the pay-rolls and money are ready, and every laborer is paid the last cent that is due. No store accounts or other indebtedness are rung in in payment, but what is due is paid up in money, and a whole day is allowed them to frolic and spend it if they choose. They are permitted to use the mules and wagons and go whithersoever they please. Of course they all go to town—except, perhaps, a few of the more provident and thrifty—have a good time, spend their money, and rejoice in the privilege.

Whenever a laborer disobeys the manager's orders, or fails in any way to do his duty, and there is a conflict between him and the manager, he has the right of appeal to Col. Lockett, who is the final judge, and who is as scrupulous and rigid in meting out justice as the most impartial judge that ever wore the ermine. This every laborer in his employment knows full well, and he knows, too, that when the decision bids him go, it is irreversible, and that he must go.

These rules work harmoniously, preserve discipline, encourage industry, and promote contentment and happiness. The burthens of the field are borne with cheerfulness, work is performed with a quick step and a light heart, and employer and employee reciprocate care for each other's interest and due regard for each other's welfare.

Both these systems have their advantages and disadvantages. Some of the advantages of the share system are, that,*

1. It stimulates industry by giving the laborer an interest and pride in the crop. It has been found by experience that comparatively a small part of the laborers are influenced by these stimulants, but with this small class they certainly have a positive existence.

2. It is regarded by the laborer as a higher form of contract, and is, therefore, more likely to secure labor, especially in undesirable localities.

* We have been much assisted in the following by Mr. W. H. Evans' admirable pages before the Farmer's Club of Society Hill, South Carolina, which is by far the best analysis of the subject we have seen.

3. It gives the laborer a motive to protect the crop.
4. It does not subject the farmer to loss from a failure of, or a decline in, value of his crop.
5. It secures laborers for the year, with less likelihood of his breaking the contract, a thing he sometimes likes to do when the hard work begins.

Some of the disadvantages of the share system are —

1. The difficulty of discharging hands when they become inefficient or refractory.

“Complaint is made that though the contract generally provides that the hand may be discharged, yet the practical difficulties attending it have been so great that the farmer has, perhaps wisely, submitted to almost any imposition, rather than attempt the doubtful expedient of a discharge, with its attendant evils of a personal issue with the hand, or an arraignment before a bureau, or a court, where justice is generally administered solely in the interest of the laborer.”

2. The great difficulty of carrying on the general work of the farm, the tendency being to drift into a mere system of cropping, the most pernicious of all systems under which the labor of a country has ever been employed — a system that leads to idleness on the part of the laborer for a large part of the year, to indolence and indifference on the part of the farm owner, to decay and ruin in the farm, and a general decline in the productive resources of the country.

3. The annoyance and perplexity of harvesting and dividing the crop, requiring the gin-house to be subdivided, and leading to great loss of time in ginning and packing the crop. Also, settlements are often unsatisfactory at present, on account of the ignorance of the negro, and his tendency to suspect unfair dealing.

4. The disadvantage of having the laborers dictate

methods of cultivation according to their own notions, which are seldom right ones.

Some of the advantages of the wages system are —

1. It gives the farmer control over the labor, he having the power to discharge.
2. It stimulates industry and enterprise in the farmer. Profits go into his pockets, losses come on his shoulders.
3. It leads to economy in labor, causing the farmer to reduce the laborers to the smallest number consistent with the execution of the work, substituting mule labor and labor-saving machines for hand labor, both tending to *make labor more abundant*.
4. It enables the farmer to carry out a general system of improvement on his farm ; to keep the fences, ditches, roads and buildings all in proper repair, and to pay due attention to other crops than cotton, all of which is impossible under the present share system.
5. It necessitates close personal attention from the farmer, *forcing* thriftiness upon him and preventing indolence, for the very essence of the system lies in constant and active supervision.

The wages system labors under the temporary disadvantage that the freedman prefers a share, and having complete control, he prevents its use.

The only disadvantage we have heard urged against wages, *as a system*, is the possibility of competition carrying rates of wages so high as to be ruinous to the planter. We would suggest that this is no reason at all, as the same laws of supply and demand govern both systems. In one case money, in the other a supposed equivalent to money, is given.

The *present working* of these two systems is shown by the following extracts, a few of the many expressions

of preference, for the one to the other, that we have received :

Neither system works well. The share system works the best, as it stimulates the freedmen to work. Whenever any planters have hired the labor to farm with, they have generally made a failure, and in nine cases out of ten never have been able to gather their crop.

Cash wages to negroes, without very close overseeing, will not bring cheap produce. Shares or renting is the only mode for the proprietor of plantations. The blacks must be made to feel that they have a joint interest in the complete cultivation and thus be induced to give their whole time.

A share of the crop is the best. The laborer is not so disposed to leave you for every imaginary or trifling cause. He dreads being discharged and thereby losing his part of the crop, and, therefore, you have more command over him.

Opinions vary very much as to the best system. The averaging price of cotton does not allow of definite wages. The freedmen are not so apt to plunder where they have an interest in the crop — but there is more negligence under share system.

I never hired for wages, but know some who have, and am decidedly of opinion that share of the crop is best, at least the safest. Negroes, when paid wages, require constant watching, and when dissatisfied or whimsical, leave more readily than when interested in crops.

We cannot as yet decide which system works best ; the universal opinion would be against the share system and in favor of wages in money, if not for the difficulty in getting the services according to contract. The former has this advantage, that it is attended with less risk as to the loss in actual money.

I would rather rent land to blacks for a part of the crop, they furnish themselves, as they always abuse and kill up the teams. If I have to furnish teams I prefer to hire by the year. I had no difficulty in obtaining hands for crop of 1868. I paid promptly and always had to turn off applicants.

I have the best way to work my hands ; it is to lay off the land to the different families and direct how much to put in corn and how much in cotton.

The wages system is preferable, because one can get by that system some few improvements made on his place, such as ditching, fencing, etc., while by the share system it is impossible to get any work done cheerfully outside of the cotton and corn fields.

I prefer part wages and part time and land, but a share in the crop is the universal plan ; negroes prefer it and I am forced to adopt it. Can't choose your system. Have to do what negroes want. They control this matter entirely.

I think money wages system is best, as it secures the labor for twelve months, whereas, on the crop system, the laborer is released as soon as crop is gathered, although they are hired for the year.

Wages are the only successful method of controlling hands. Under the share system, the hands feel themselves to be part owners, and entitled to dictate, and will do nothing on the plantation except at the crop. No improvements can be made under this system.

Wages are best. When they are employed for a part of the crop, they invariably claim their time as their own, much of which they waste. And, again, they wish to cultivate crops according to their own notions, which are seldom right.

Money wages, at ten to twelve dollars per month, are best, if the hands could be kept at work ; there being no restraint, they quit when they please, go off to the villages, hunting, fishing or sleeping, especially in the summer, when labor is most needed.

I find that men who deal fair and square with the freedmen get as many as they want. The freedmen do not like to live with a poor man, as they say, or one that never owned them in slave times.

There was difficulty in obtaining hands for last crop only to a limited extent, from want of confidence in landlords. Liberal and fair dealing insures labor.

In obtaining hands for last crop there was but little difficulty where the laborers were paid and well treated. Some could get few, if any,

on account of their bad faith to the laborer and attempts to keep him from voting as he wished.

Those who have tried both systems say that paying wages is the best and I am satisfied it is, when the planter attends to his business in person and stays closely with his laborers.

In the present irregular and uncertain price of cotton, general demoralization and want of good laws and their enforcement, the share system works best.

As to the present condition of things, in regard to the two above systems, neither seems to work very well, the planter often changing at the end of the year, both he as well as the laborer, being tired of whichever system was used. Great complaint is made of the freedman not keeping to the contract, leaving at a crisis, perhaps from some real or supposed grievance, which, in a culture that requires such continuous work, is serious, and may be fatal. Often the grievance is only imaginary, as the liberated slave, seems naturally enough, to suspect almost every one, and is not yet sufficiently educated to understand the nature of a contract. There is need, too, of just and wholesome laws for the enforcement of contracts in the interest of both parties, for the negro is not always the only contracting party who breaks faith and acts unfairly; there seems to be a better condition of things in respect to contracts this year than the last.

The balance of preference seems to be in favor of giving the laborer a share of the crop, and this is the system in most general use; nearly two hundred thousand out of more than a quarter of a million of acres from which we have heard are cultivated under it, yet, with the recommendation of this course, comes constantly, we might say always, the expression of a preference for paying

wages, as giving the farmer control over his labor, and for other reasons stated above, and to this form most will, doubtless return, should the price of cotton seriously decline. Perhaps it would be better to say that the laborer under the stimulus of the present excessive profit on the cost of the production of cotton, demands his pay in kind — but he thus becomes practically a speculator in cotton, and should he get “bitten” by a decline, he will wish to return to regular wages. Such a return would be very valuable, by making the planter economical of labor, thus releasing a portion of what he now employs, which would then be added to the available amount, while what remains with him would be improved in quality.

The conclusions arrived at are, therefore, that the return to the wages system, the enactment and enforcement of strict laws, compelling the carrying out of contracts, and an honest treatment of the freedmen, will do much to increase the quantity and improve the quality of the labor now in the South.

MANURE.

The second remedy to counteract the unsatisfactory condition of labor is the liberal use of fertilizers to increase the quantity of lint to the acre by returning to the soil the mineral elements taken by repeated crops, or by supplying the constituents necessary to the plants that are absent. Only the richest *new* soils contain all the constituents necessary, in sufficiently liberal quantities and in a soluble form to nourish a full crop, and the yield can always be improved by adding those that are wanting, What then must be the need of an upland cotton field, worked for years under a system of slavery, that *cropped* year after year. It is only on account of the slow exhaustive nature

of the cotton plant, and of the great fertility of the cotton belt, that the uplands were not entirely exhausted long ago ; as it was, the planter had to seek new lands continually, and even had to cast his eyes on Mexico as a future cotton field.

The following list shows the position of the cotton plant compared with other crops in exhaustive power :

Amount of mineral matter in 100 lbs. of various plants and tubers compared with the various parts of the cotton plant :

Cotton fibre	1.3 lbs.
Cotton-seed	3.8 "
Cotton stalks	3.1 "
Potato roots	4.1 "
Turnips	12. "
Turnips, whole plant	15. "
Carrot	8. "
Carrot, whole plant	17.1 "
Wheat, straw and stem	5.4 "
Wheat, grains and seeds	2.0 "
Oats, straw and stem	5.3 "
Oats, grains and seeds	3.3 "
Peas	2.7 "
Barley	2.3 "
White clover	7.2 "
Timothy	7.1 "

Or put in another form, if the fibre alone is taken off the ground (as it alone should be, for the seeds should be replaced either directly or through the cattle), you have only 6½ lbs. removed from an acre (at 1. bale to the acre), whilst a crop of wheat on the same land would take 17.65 lbs., potatoes, 163 lbs., and beets, 458 lbs. of mineral matter, and that acre would be by that much impoverished and less capable of raising a crop the next year.

In spite of this slow exhaustion of the mineral elements

of land by cotton, there is no doubt of the great need, in fact of the *necessity* of using fertilizers, at any rate on the upland; and even on the black *bottom lands*, which unaided, and in spite of slovenly cultivation, produce $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 bales to the acre, and where there is no present need or next to none, one cannot take away and not put back for ever. The necessity of the use of fertilizers has been forced upon the planter, and the question of "what are the best ones" has become a very important one to him.

One judges of what a plant needs by seeing what it takes from well-stored ground. An analysis of the fibre gives the following result: 100 lbs. cotton lint contain 1.3 lbs. of mineral matter of the following composition:

Potash	41.8	per cent.	
Soda	6.1	" "	
Magnesia	11.2	" "	
Lime	19.8	" "	(4 $\frac{1}{2}$)
Oxide of Iron	2.4	" "	
Phosphoric Acid	6.4	" "	
Sulphuric Acid	4.2	" "	
Silica . . . . .	.3	" "	
Chlorine	7.8	" "	

Good manures for cotton *must* contain, therefore, the above bodies, and in a soluble condition. Of these lime, potash (or soda), phosphoric and sulphuric acids (and magnesia, probably) are necessary nutriment of all plants.

The following available manures contain, in whole or in part, these necessary ingredients:

1. Cotton seed.
2. Natural phosphate.
3. Guano, superphosphate and bonedust.
4. Salt, ashes, and alkaline manures.
5. Stable and barnyard manure.
6. Lime.
7. Land plaster.

We will now speak of each of these separately, and also give a digest of the opinions expressed in the answers relative to their use.

COTTON-SEED.

The ash of cotton-seed shows the following analysis: 100 parts of the seed when burned leaves 3.8 parts of ash, (or inorganic matter) which contains the following ingredients in the proportion stated:

Potash	.	.	.	.	.	36.0	per cent.
Soda	.	.	.	.	.	1.1	" "
Magnesia	.	.	.	.	.	14.2	" "
Lime	.	.	.	.	.	6.2	" "
Oxide of iron	.	.	.	.	.	.6	" "
Phosphoric acid	.	.	.	.	.	36.2	" "
Sulphuric	"	.	.	.	.	4.1	" "
Silica	.	.	.	.	.	Trace	" "
Chlorine	.	.	.	.	.	.5	" "

An examination of the above shows how admirably cotton-seed is fitted for a cotton manure.

Supposing the soil to contain originally the constituents necessary and in the right proportion it nearly approaches to a perfect manure, as it returns almost all that has been abstracted, the decomposing organic portion of the seed furnishes the Nitrogen.

Its use alone would be enough to restore the fertility of the land after each crop, if faithfully returned, if the lands of the South had not become exhausted by bad culture; planters are now paying for the cost of slavery by the use of fertilizers, necessitated by the exhausting methods of that system.

As there are 300 pounds of seed to 100 pounds of lint, and, as the seed contains three to four times as much

mineral matter as the lint, it follows that the seed exhausts the soil at least ten times as rapidly as the fibre. Where a bale is made to an acre, there are 50 pounds, at least, of mineral matter taken from it which should be returned either directly or through the cattle, and so much gained. Some planters think cotton-seed too hot for cotton, and that it is best to feed corn lands first with it, and plant cotton the second year; but the bulk of the evidence is in favor of its direct use. The results are undoubted, and there seems to be no burning of the crops when rightly applied. Its use is general in some form or other, all through the uplands. As some of the methods given in our answers are *very* wasteful, we give below extracts from our letters, selected with care, as showing experienced opinion as to the best manner of preparing it in the hope that better methods may be substituted.

A gentleman from Central Alabama, whose opinion on subjects connected with scientific farming is held in high respect, writes as follows :

There is no kind of doubt about the superiority of cotton-seed manure over any other manure yet discovered. You can easily test it by trying it on your Northern soil.

The simple problem of comparing the cost and yield of cotton with and without manure, is solved by the simple explanation that a man may easily *break* by the latter, and can never break by the former mode.

The best way to prepare cotton-seed for manure, is to put it in a water-tight basin made in the earth, and let it rot in the weather; it will heat so much, and become so offensive with ammonia, in a short time, as to let its strength be known extensively, and a very little of the liquid from it will kill any animal, if given to it. After it is rotten it can be used broadcast for grain, or in the hill for corn, or in the drill or hill for cotton, and when mixed with bone dust, gypsum, or any other manure, it is very rich.

We have no river muck or manure on our plantation. We have fine stables and stall all our stock, keeping fine beds of litter under them, and thus making lots of manure ; besides this, we gather all the bones around us, and "send to mill," getting back about one half of it in bone dust. Take your cotton-seed, bone-dust, stable-manure, and decayed vegetable matter and gypsum, and any farmer can get rich. We would thank no one to guarantee us \$10,000 *without* worms, and \$5,000 profit *with* worms.

FLORIDA.

Build pens ten (10) or twelve (12) feet square, convenient to swamp muck, Put in a layer of the seed and a layer of the muck, and so on till you get the pen as high as desired. The layer of muck should be thicker than that of cotton-seed. Say as four (4) to one (1) inch in thickness. The oil from the seed is taken up by the muck, and if too great a proportion of seed is put in, it escapes in the atmosphere — you can ascertain readily by the scent should there be too much seed.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Feed the seed to fatten cattle for market, keep the stalls well composted you will make more manure in this than any other way They make cattle very fat, sheep or goats, etc.

CENTRAL ALABAMA.

Put the seed down in the drill early and before they are rotted, and bed on them and you then get the full advantage from them. This has been impracticable since freedom, because at the time this should be done the laborers want a holiday to spend their year's earnings in.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

My plans are as follows : Put seed in piles of 150 to 200 bushels, just before needed, heat rocks to a high heat and place near the centre of the bottom of the piles, pour on water enough to prevent ignition and to generate steam, the object being to kill the germinating properties without rotting the seed. Again, I place a layer of stable manure, about one foot thick, and cotton-seed to the same thickness, then stable manure, then seed, and so on ; in a week to ten days the

manure is ready, and by digging down from the sides the whole is mixed.

ALABAMA.

Cotton-seed may be crushed between cylinders, and used fresh. They may be hauled to the field, and there composted in heaps, by putting in layers of one inch seed and six inches soil. In the fall or winter, they may be scattered fresh in the drill where wanted and covered with the plow, or in the spring, just before using, put in conical heaps, open a hole near the centre and pour in a few tubs of water, cover the pile six inches with earth, and in a few days they will heat so as to destroy vitality. A little quick-lime is better than water to create heat.

MISSISSIPPI.

For corn, after the land has been plowed, open a furrow and drop a quart of cotton-seed with each hill of corn, then cover with a plow. For cotton, open a furrow in the middle of the row, then strew the cotton-seed thick (the more, the greater will be the yield of cotton), and throw two furrows on. This should be done in February; it is best to keep the seed dry up to the time of putting them in the ground, thereby retaining all the fertilizing ingredients to sustain the plants while fruiting in July, August and September.

ARKANSAS.

I prefer to expose the seed to weather at least twelve months before using them, so as to be sure they are well rotted, which requires them to be exposed to rain and sun for at least twelve months; then use as any other manure.

GEORGIA.

I believe that crushing the seed is best, but never tried it. The universal mode here is to put them out in pens, six or eight weeks before they are to be used, on a wet day — if not wet, we apply a few tubs full of water. They get hot in a few days, enough to destroy the germ, and in this state are applied mostly to corn. Mixed with guano, they are fine for cotton, wheat, oats, etc.

GEORGIA.

Haul straw or leaves into the cow pens and horse and mule stables every month in the year. In January make up contents of these pens

and stables into compost, by spreading one layer of the litter a foot deep, and to every six hundred (600) square feet of surface feet (spread over) fifty (50) bushels live cotton-seed, and so on, until the pile is about six (6) feet high. This will rot by March, and the oil of the cotton-seed will be distributed through the mass. Another plan is to mash the cotton-seed ; another to put in the ground in February and cover it. The old mode of killing the seed before hauling out is very wasteful.

The evidence shows that cotton-seed is used for cattle, very generally. There is little variation in the method, which the following extract will show :

One gallon of raw, sound seed, per day, with $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 gallon of corn meal or peas, is a rich ration for a cow with other forage. It is excellent food for hogs when boiled or soaked. For winter feed for cattle, it can be mixed with turnips, meal or bran. They are sure death to hogs when fed raw.

Planters in some parts of the country are selling seed to "Oil Mills," getting ten cents (10) per bushel, this is all very well *if the meal is returned and fed to the land through the cattle* as oil cake, but if the 50 pounds of mineral matter thus taken from each acre is not restored, the policy seems scarcely far sighted. In some cases planters were buying guano at \$75.00 per ton, to replace seed sold at ten cents per bushel.

SOUTH CAROLINA NATURAL PHOSPHATES.

Nothing could be more fortunate for the upland portion of the cotton belt at this time, when shortness in the amount of labor must be counteracted by increased yield to the acre, than the presence of the apparently large beds of phosphatic remains that are now being worked on the Cooper and Ashley Rivers in South Carolina, as they give a supply of phosphoric acid and lime at the very door of the planter.

We copy from the May number of "Silliman's Journal," the following, which will give more information about these beds than we can get anywhere else :

Notes on the occurrence and composition of the Nodular Phosphates of South Carolina ; by CHARLES U. SHEPARD, Jr., M.D., Prof. of Chemistry in the Medical College of the State of South Carolina .

The belt of nodular phosphates appears to extend, more or less interrupted, from the Wando and Cooper rivers, some fifteen to thirty miles above Charleston, in a south-southwesterly direction, parallel to the coast line, as far as St. Helena Sound and Bluffton, near Port Royal. As yet the precise area is unknown ; no accurate survey having been made, although this want is daily felt by the community. It would be erroneous to suppose that there is a well defined stratum of any such extent as this area above mentioned ; on the contrary, the bed appears only in patches, some of which, however, are many miles in diameter. On the Wando and Cooper rivers the nodules are found in comparatively small beds, generally but a few inches in thickness ; still, limited deposits, one to three feet thick, have been reported in some localities of this neighborhood. On the peninsula between the Cooper and Ashley rivers, the deposit assumes the form of a well defined stratum, in many places attaining a thickness of eighteen to twenty-four inches, and underlying hundreds of acres, at an average depth of about three feet from the surface. The nodules vary in size from that of a walnut, to masses weighing two hundred pounds and over ; they lie compactly together with but little marl between them. This marl is composed of 30 to 60 per cent carbonate of lime, a few per cent phosphates of iron, lime, and alumina,—the balance being chiefly sand and peroxyd of iron. At other points on the peninsula, the nodules rarely exceed a few lbs. in weight, and are sparsely distributed. The favorable localities lie east of Goose creek, near the Cooper river. The Ashley beds were the first discovered, are the best known, largest in extent, and most mined. This deposit extends, at an accessible depth, over, perhaps, one thousand acres, on both sides of the river ; and running back from it for several miles in some places. The beds are quite accessible, not only on account of the depth of the Ashley river and their proximity to Charleston, but because of their lying close to the surface (generally within two feet), in a light soil, which separates easily from the nodules on handling

or washing. The nodules are of a yellowish-gray color, of less specific gravity than those elsewhere found, their surfaces but slightly irregular, and their composition tolerably uniform. The best beds lie on the river ten to twenty miles from Charleston; farther up stream the nodules are found in a sandy soil, and become permeated with sand to the amount of thirty per cent and over, when the phosphates do not reach fifty per cent. On some plantations the bed of phosphatic nodules is over two feet in thickness; and the amount of marketable material produced from mining an acre may exceed twelve hundred tons. On the Stono and Edisto rivers there have been found but few rich deposits,—the stratum exhibiting continuity in but occasional spots. As a rule, the nodules lie deeper on these rivers than on the Ashley. Heavy deposits have been discovered on the flats in the neighborhood of St. Helena Sound, covering vast surfaces at little depth from the surface, occasionally forming a compact floor, or huge boulder-like masses at the bottom of the creeks which intersect that neighborhood. Finally, on the Ashepoo river, at one locality in this neighborhood, the stratum has the appearance of an immense pavement, extending over hundreds of acres at a depth of three to six feet. It is with difficulty that the large masses (often several hundred-weight each) can be pried apart, so closely are they wedged together,—having a smooth, glazed upper surface, but irregular beneath. The masses, moreover, are often penetrated to considerable depth, sometimes perforated by round holes, which extend generally in a perpendicular direction. These cavities have a diameter of one-half to one inch. The phosphatic masses forming this floor are nine to twelve inches in thickness, and overlie a bed of nodular phosphates of smaller size, which extends down to the depth of twelve to fifteen inches below the continuous stratum. The whole deposit is imbedded in a tenacious clay, underneath which occurs a yellow-red marl. This marl is rich in shells and the bones of marine and land animals. It is composed, when air-dry, of nearly 70 per cent sand, 18 per cent carbonate of lime, and 5 to 7 per cent phosphates of lime, alumina and iron. It is reported that the nodules form in some limited localities a second layer, and as continuous as the top stratum,—underlying it at the depth of about one foot.

Note upon the origin of the Phosphatic Formation ; by C. U. SHEP-
ARD, Sr.

Concerning the origin of this extensive formation, several explanations suggest themselves. Among these the best answering the purpose at present is, perhaps, the supposition that the great Carolina Eocene bed of shell-marl on which it rests, formerly and for a long period, protruded many feet above the present sea-level, giving rise to a luxuriant soil (analogous to that now existing over portions of some of the guano islands and shores), and which was then depressed beneath the sea, where it underwent those changes that have resulted in the present formation. For the superabundance of the phosphate of lime in the soil supposed, we would point to the deposition of bird-guano as it is now going on upon the Musquito coast of the Caribbean sea. A layer of such soil, clothed with an abundant vegetation of from three to five feet in thickness, and nearly submerged and afterwards becoming more or less covered with sand, in the absence of strong tidal action and oceanic currents (and these may have been precluded by shoals and even land in a seaward direction), would give rise to enormous quantities of carbonic acid, whereby the carbonate of lime of the soil and of portions of the upper layer of the marl itself would be withdrawn, and thus permit the segregation of the phosphate of lime into nodules or even into an imperfect stratum. The alumina and oxyd of iron would be precipitated upon, and among the phosphate everywhere as we find them, mingled also with considerable quantities of siliceous matter. The sulphate of lime which occurs intimately distributed through the phosphatic masses, may be supposed to have originated by double decomposition through the meeting of sulphate of soda and chlorid of calcium. The carbonate of lime present in the nodular phosphate, would be looked for as the residuum of that belonging to the soil and marl, which the free carbonic acid was inadequate to dissolve. Meanwhile the deposit would be enriched from the precipitation out of the supernatant waters, of the osseous remains of fishes and other marine animals ; and to some extent also by those from the land, which the rivers might bring into the estuary.

We learn that these beds have been vigorously mined this year, three manufactories, in or near Charleston, have

been in full blast, grinding, drying and making the fertilizing mixtures for the planters who have used them extensively, the natural phosphate taking the place of the bone dust or guano of the imported mixtures. The prospect is that their use will be more extensive next year.

The analysis of these phosphates show them to contain lime, sulphuric and phosphoric acids, but no alkali, which must be supplied, unless intended for land already containing it. The method of applying these phosphates is like that for guano.

It would seem that the importance of these phosphatic remains cannot be over estimated.

GUANO.

Guano contains *all* necessary constituents in sufficient quantities for the nourishment of the plant, except the alkalies ; when these are present in the ground nothing more is needed, and it is the best and the most available manure the planter has after he has used all his cottonseed and stable manure, (the latter by the way, is a complete manure supplying all that is needed.) The farmer would do well to remember that while guano makes the cotton plant grow, it makes the weeds grow also ; that owing to its rapid action, on account of its solubility, its effects are not lasting. Also, owing to its high stimulating power, the land, after repeated application of it *alone*, becomes drained of potash and silica, thereby losing its productiveness, this may not be felt for years but it is inevitable unless potash is supplied in sufficient quantity. Rotation of manure becomes therefore important, for land once exhausted is hard to restore to fertility, and may require much rest and careful treat-

ment. Also, the manure must be fitted to the land, — the planter must make sure what his soil needs before selecting the fertilizer to use ; any manure will not do for any land.

Innumerable mixtures are made of guano, land-plaster salt, superphosphates, lime, bone dust, etc. etc. ; all useful if pure and rightly used.

One of the most encouraging things the writer saw during a late visit to the upland region, was the omnipresence of fertilizers, on the levees, on drays, on cars — everywhere he smelt guano, at about every corner he was sure to see the sign of a guano dealer ; in every paper he took up, *guano* in large letters stared him in the face on every page and almost every column ; it was taken by the planter so fast that it seldom went into store, but was hurried from the ship's side directly to the railroad ; thousands of tons came into Savannah alone this season ; everything that smelt, sold ; the odor of guano was in his nose from one end of Georgia to the other. We can safely say that the amount used on the upland during this year was three times as great as during last.

It shows that the cotton farmer is thoroughly awake to the benefit certain to come from the right use of fertilizers. Not that this is the first year they have been used at the South. In many portions they have been used for years, but this season many used them who never did before, and many who used a little before, used this year large quantities. The coming crop cannot help feeling their liberal use for its good, even if we have a dry season. We sincerely hope that there will be no reaction from the enthusiastic demand for fertilizers ; many have unreasonably high expectations and many will fail to see any results, from their unfortunately buying spurious and

adulterated articles, as undoubtedly many of the bought mixtures are.

There are so many "manufacturers," dealers and brands, and our answers contained so many opinions that it is useless trying to state which is the best. There is a widespread opinion that the safest thing to do to guard against adulterations is to make one's own mixture; and if a planter follows Mr. Dickson with his Peruvian Guano, ground bone, salt, and land-plaster — equal parts — he cannot go far wrong. We copy below the best out of many directions for applying "guano and other bought manures," sent to us by a gentleman from Scriven County, Georgia :

I think the most economical mode of using the guano and other bought fertilizers is to break up the land in winter or early spring, in rows four (4) or five (5) feet apart, cross those rows at the distance of two and a half (2 1-2) or three (3) feet apart, drop the manure in the water furrow, from two (2) to three (3) ounces at each crossing cover it up immediately with a small plow, with two furrows — this should be done as early in March as possible. On the first (1st) day of April start the turning plow and cover the list made by the small plow, planting the cotton-seed immediately after the plow.

The marks of the cross laying off will indicate where the seed should be dropped. After the manure has been covered up by the small plow, from four (4) to five (5) acres can be prepared for planting by one horse and plow per day. If the land is heavy and close, the intermediate space between the cotton rows should be broken up with a long scooter or shovel plow as soon as the seed is put in the ground. If the land is loose and sandy, a sweep plow will do as well. This preparation gives the cotton an even start with the grass.

SALT.

While the natural phosphates, guano, superphosphates and bone dust supply the necessary lime, phosphoric and sulphuric acids, they fail to give in sufficient quantity the alkali and chlorine of which the former is of great, per-

haps equal, importance to the plant. Land exhausted of its alkalids refuses to raise anything.

Salt and ashes are the bodies that at present supply the necessary alkalid, and supplementing guano, form a nearly complete fertilizing mixture.

One of the most successful planters in the South writes as follows as to the usefulness of salt :

“ I have used salt for fifteen or more years. I find it essential to success on all lands like mine, and most of the cotton lands are like mine. Three hundred pounds of salt and two hundred of land-plaster are almost a total preventative of rust, which is one of the worst enemies the planter has to contend with. Salt makes cotton bear longer in the season and stand drought better, it increases the quantity and improves the quality of the staple, it acts equally well on corn, oats and other grains, toughens wheat-straw, causes less waste from the heads of wheat breaking off when cut. I use eight hundred bushels. I would use one thousand bushels. Many cannot use it on account of the price.”

The latter is unfortunately true enough. The high price of salt is a decided injury to the cotton interest. The importing price in Liverpool is eight cents per bushel, it bears an import duty of eighteen cents gold in bulk, or twenty-four cents in bags, per one hundred pounds. The latter is chiefly used in the southern market from its convenience of transportation.

A bushel weighs fifty-six to eighty-five pounds. This duty is then equal to an *ad valorem* duty of from one hundred to one hundred and seventy per cent, an average higher than is imposed under the tariff on any other article of primal necessity and consumption. We are indebted to the last report of the Special Commissioners of the Revenue for the following, which shows the relation between the importing cost and the duty, very plainly, being the result of actual experience :

“Ship Ontario, from Liverpool to New York, September, 1867 :

Cost cargo, 5,429 sacks Liverpool ground salt . . .	\$2,531 40
Duty on same	2,931 84
Percentage of duty to first cost	115 00

The effect of the duty has been an advance from 50 cents to \$1.00 per sack, (of 213 lbs.) in 1860, to \$1.90 to \$2.30 per sack in 1869 in the Savannah market ; and a curtailment of its use. It is the opinion of dealers there, that at 80 cents to \$1.00 per sack *large* quantities would be used. As it is, *not more than a quarter* of the 22,748,400 lbs. imported into Savannah during the year ending June 1, 1869, was used for fertilizers.*

But fortunately there is likely to be available to the farmer sources of alkalies for his land that can be introduced into the country free of duty. About four years ago a vast deposit of potash-salts was discovered in Germany, several square miles in extent, and not more than two hundred feet below the surface. This deposit consists partly of a double chloride of potassium and magnesium,† the two latter being the very chemical elements that guano does not supply in sufficient quantities, and that are needed by most lands. We have been informed that these admirable supplements to guano—these “alkaline manures” —can be offered, by those who have the virtual monopoly of their importation to this country, at prices that will enable planters to prove by trial their great utility.

Of the importance of the use of manures in general we cannot say too much, as one step towards scientific farming, and at the present time, especially, helping the

* See Appendix G.

† These chlorides are partly converted into sulphates before being offered for sale.

farmer by increasing the yield to the acre to make his insufficient labor go further. We quote the opinion of some of the highest authorities on the subject at the South. One who pays thirteen thousand dollars for manure a year, and therefore is one of experience, says :

Use manure everywhere you plow and plant, except in a hole of water or on a rock. If you cultivate land, it will pay to use manure, and it will pay best on land that pays best without it—the safest without manure is the safest with manure—and your labor will be more certainly rewarded by using manure on all the land you plant. You can and must accumulate manure in the same ratio as you buy it—the more you purchase the more you can make at home.

Certainly his results from high manuring sustain his opinions. Many have heard of his sixteen acre lot, where, on pine land, — old land (it had been under the plough for years, as many as fifty-three in cotton, with little or no rest), — he obtained two bales to the acre by the use of one hundred and fifty-five pounds soluble bones, one hundred and sixty-five pounds Peruvian guano, and one hundred pounds land plaster (owing to the high tariff he could not use salt). The total *expense* was thirty-two dollars and five cents to the acre, of which seventeen dollars was for manure. At forty-five cents per pound the income from that acre was two hundred and twenty-five dollars. At ten cents per pound, even, it would be ninety dollars.

A gentleman from the pine land of middle Georgia gives his evidence as follows :

“I believe in manure, and this is my reason : I have a field of old, worn, piney land, which produced three hundred pounds of seed cotton to the acre, year before last. This year I gave it ten dollars worth of Dickson Compound and rotted cotton-seed to the acre, and I made fourteen hundred pounds seed cotton.”

A correspondent from Alabama writes :

"A neighbor used, as an experiment, some phosphate of lime on three acres, with astonishing results, increasing the production from five hundred to fifteen hundred pounds per acre. Our people are slow in making innovations on old habits, notwithstanding we know how greatly our interests would be promoted by it."

An old New England farmer, as he was breathing his last, said to his son — "Johnny, don't get in debt! That is my last and solemn advice — Don't get in debt!! but, Johnny, if you *do* get in debt, *let it be for manure.*"

Finally, manure, by increasing the yield to acre, enables the farmer to raise a given amount of cotton with fewer hands, thus proving itself one efficient remedy for the lack of laborers, and the quality of their work.

COTTON CULTURE.

That poor methods of culture waste labor, and that improvements have an importance as increasing its effectiveness, needs hardly to be proved. In spite of the statement sometimes made by our correspondents that the processes and system of cotton culture were perfect before the war (a statement usually accompanied by a similar opinion in regard to the then system of labor), the awakened interest in, and very general desire to get improvements in tools and methods is positive proof to the contrary, and this desire is one evidence of the beneficial effect of the war upon the planter.

The extracts that follow are from almost every quarter of the cotton belt, and show the general tone of evidence on the question whether any changes are taking place in the cultivation of the staple, and what opposition if any, such changes have to contend against.

The methods of cultivation are not being changed that I know of: unless by intelligent white labor none can be; the stupidity of negroes will not allow it. They imitate, never invent. You cannot teach them new tricks.

“We are compelled to conform to the wishes of freedmen, however they may conflict with our own. Consequently there is less system observed than under the old regime. Loss of time, destruction of tools, abuse of stock, with a total disregard of the employer's interest, all combine to make the business less profitable than it otherwise would be. If these difficulties could be overcome, free labor would be more remunerative than slave labor.”

Very few changes in cultivation are taking place near me, except in more copious use of commercial fertilizers. Better plows than were in use some years ago, are now used—land is broken deeper and more thoroughly. We use better sweeps or horse-hoes. It is difficult, however (I may say impossible), to get the freedmen to use them, or to do anything else, to the best advantage, even when they are proportionably benefited by so doing.

The modes of preparing and cultivating are changing to some extent. The Brinley & Podge plows and the Geddes harrow, guano distributors and seed planters are extensively used this Spring. Ton upon ton of commercial fertilizers are being used where they were unknown before. Many will lose largely this year by inexperience in the application of commercial manures, and many will lose by having worthless manures imposed upon them.

The same old method of cultivation is still in use. It will be almost impossible to have it change with the present labor we have at our disposal. The average production of corn here is twenty bushels per acre, while north of the Ohio river the yield averages full forty bushels. With the improved system of Northern farming this country would out-produce the North. In a three acre lot, for experiment, by my overseer, who is a Pennsylvanian, he produced one hundred and seventy-five bushels of the finest corn that can be raised, but the lot had been thoroughly manured with stable manure.

General failure and disgust have forced some planters to turn their lands over to negroes entirely. On these places you will find seven or eight good hands following one poor mule, or a stump-tailed

bull calf in a plow, with which they manage, but mainly by stealing from adjacent fields, to pay rent and retain their places. Before freedom two hands were adjudged sufficient for one mule when farms are rented to negroes, the methods and tools are the same as in use fifty years ago, only they work on the *five hour system*.

Gradually, a considerable enquiry for commercial manures, and a disposition to procure implements to facilitate labor. This applies solely to the whites. Where the negroes are renters, their mode of cultivation is careless and slovenly, cultivation negligent and results failures, in four out of five cases.

Intelligent planters are making every effort towards improvement, being fully alive to the necessity, but the blacks are setting up for themselves on the poorer lands rented from owners not able to tend them, and retrograding into the practices of thirty years ago, or worse. The average culture is not as good as it was just before the war. And it is to be feared that the high price of cotton will induce a larger breadth of land to be put into cotton this year than can be successfully cultivated.

Many are making up by fertilizers what they lose by lack of labor. Over half our farmers are on rented lands, and they have no interest in improving the land, their leases running only from year to year.

There is a general wish here to use new machinery and adopt most improved modes of culture—but the people are not in a condition to take any risk—their fathers made a living by the old mode, and they have heretofore—they hear of what has been done and can be done—but these things are not of their own experience—they are too poor to try experiments—a failure would involve the supply question as to meat and bread—hence the old plan is pursued.

We are farming as in days of old. The Southern planters are the slowest to change former methods of cultivation, of all others. Ready to admit the present system to be ruinous, they still refuse to change; prefer to work one hundred acres to make thirty to fifty bales cotton, than to change their plans, and make fifty acres make fifty bales. This can be easily done, on any land in North-west Mississippi.

There is but little change, and cultivation is not nearly so well done now as it was before the war, and will not be soon. The white man, unaccustomed to work, won't do much, and the black, who only moved to

keep out of the way of the lash, are not the material to make good crops. In fact, the love of ease is too great, and the horror of God's curse on Adam when he turned him out of Eden, too great.

There are changes to some extent as regards improved plows. Some planters are also increasing their teams to substitute for manual labor, but this will be only a partial good, for the crops cannot be gathered by mule power, and the gathering is always the great difficulty. The Coolie system would solve the problem of gathering the crops, for the work would exactly suit them.

The cultivation continues nearly the same. We try to get the best of agricultural tools, but we have never been able to get anything capable of gathering the cotton, equal to the fingers, but hope that some easier means will be found to save the cotton crop, as the cost of picking is at least half the expense of making the cotton crop, and it takes besides so long a time to gather it, that it is almost impossible to prevent considerable being lost or wasted by rains and storms.

A few planters are using a good style of cast iron plow. Shovels and forks are being used some, instead of handling manure with the hands. There is a tendency, generally, to improve in a small way.

There is a growing disposition to contract the area planted, on account of the want of labor, and to obtain a larger yield by the use of fertilizers, and a more thorough cultivation.

Everything moves by epidemics — Law's South Sea scheme — the tulip mania — the present mania for life insurance — and fertilizers and painted plows — are all manias, and a re-action will surely take place — but the ebb will not go as far back as it was in 1860. Progress has surely set in, and nothing but lack of labor will prevent the State of Georgia alone from making more cotton than is now raised in all the South.

I believe that farmers are commencing to realize the fact that less land, well drained, plowed deep, and highly manured, will pay much better than extensive acres merely scratched. There is much inquiry after improved tools, plows, manures; and upon the whole, I believe in a few years crops will much improve, while lands will be better cared for — provided always, common sense prevails in the legislation of the country.

There are no new methods of cultivation, as yet, but the people are alive to the importance of labor-saving machines, and will get them as soon as their circumstances will allow them to do so. Many important changes could be made to great advantage.

From the foregoing, we may judge that the routine has not much altered for the better since the times of slavery, owing, in a great measure, to the shiftlessness, ignorance and clumsiness of the plantation freedman,—in fact to that same poor condition of labor which improvements in culture are expected to counteract,—and which will prevent any material change except by slow degrees. In fact, some of the elements in the new condition of things,—as, for example, the freedmen setting up for themselves,—have a tendency to impair rather than to improve. Nevertheless in spite of these drawbacks, much has been done when a desire for improvement is felt,—and such a desire *is* strongly felt,—a fact that is seen in the general spirit of our answers, but can hardly be shown by extracts.

In the hopes of furnishing hints that may be of value to the planter, by suggesting ways of using his available labor to the best advantage, and of carrying on his farm economically, we give below extracts from our correspondence as to the routine of cotton farming and economy on the farm.

SELMA, ALA.

In this country a man has no time to waste while farming ; it is all he can do to get his ground prepared, ready for the seed, and before he is through planting his first seed are up and ready for attention ; and then if he hoes and plows, every fair day he can get, it is all he can do to keep his crops clean, up to the time the first ball opens, and then before he can get ready for picking, and after that time, he has his hands full to keep his cotton from being injured by the storms ; if he gets behind, he loses a great deal in classification and by waste,

and he is not done picking until 1st of December, and then it is full time to have plows in for the next crop.

Now, on the other hand, many farmers put off plowing until February or March, then they are behind, and can only half do the work; the grass gets ahead of them, and they "lay by their crop" too soon, and generally have but *little to pick*. We never see an idle day on our farm, the wet weather causes enough delay to keep a farmer uneasy without looking up idle days; this is one peculiarity about cotton growing that the successful farmer never overlooks.

COURTLAND COUNTY, ALA.

I will first give a brief history of cotton planting before the war, and attempt to show why the crop required almost an entire year's work.

The usual number of acres per hand cultivated before the war, was about ten of cotton, and five of corn. The cotton and corn stalks were generally cleared off, ditches cleaned out, fences repaired, etc., in January. In February the plowing was commenced; the corn land prepared first, and then the cotton, which usually occupied all of February and March, owing to the interruption of rain and cold weather. The first of March the corn crop was planted in ridges five feet wide and two feet apart, in drill, and six to ten grains dropped in a hill and covered with a plow. This method of planting necessitates a great deal of hoe work and thinning out.

About the first of April the cotton was planted in drills, very thickly strewn, and perhaps fifty stalks would come up where it was necessary for one to grow. The others had to be thinned out with the hoe. After the planting was finished, which was generally about the middle of April, the first plowing and hoeing was given to the corn, which work occupied all the time in good weather until first of May, at which period the cotton was usually about two to three inches high, with six or eight leaves on it. Then the cultivation of cotton would begin by barring off or running a single horse plow lightly on each side of the cotton and reducing the drill to about six inches in width which would be thickly set with the young plants. The hoe hands would follow chopping out to a stand or scraping, as it was more commonly called. This was always the most tedious and laborious work of the season. After scraping, next came mould-

ing or hilling with a very light furrow, which had to be so skilfully done with the plow that none of the tender plants would be covered up. The plowman, having to stop often to take the dirt off the cotton where the plow would approach too near, made this exceedingly tedious. After this plowing, another hoeing would follow, drawing the dirt up slightly to the cotton and taking out any chance weeds in the drill. These workings usually occupied all the time till the tenth of June, and after that, the plowing and sweeping went on with more ease. The crop had to be plowed and hoed about every two weeks. During this time, however, about the middle of May, the corn would require another plowing, and again last of May or first of June. This work was generally done after each plowing or working given to the cotton. The cultivation of corn would be finished by the middle of June, and after that period the growth and spread of the cotton was rapid and cultivation easy. About the first of July part of the hands would be withdrawn for other work, and by the twentieth of July, usually, the last work on the cotton crop would be completed. Then came the season for gathering fodder, making cotton baskets, scaffolds for drying, etc. Middle of August, cotton would begin to open its bottom or first formed bolls; at the same time every cotton stalk would look like a large bouquet, and would present its fruit in all the stages of maturity; the blossom, the tiny boll, the half grown, and the fully matured, with its fleecy treasure hanging out. Picking would be commenced the first of September, and as at first there would be only half a dozen matured and open bolls to the stalk, the hands would go over the field rapidly. In two weeks they would be going over the same ground a second time with a considerable increase in the number of matured bolls before them. The months of September, October, and perhaps November, would pass before the pickers would get back to the place of beginning; and when they returned, it would be to find all the bolls open, and it was often the first of January or even February, before the crop was all gathered, thus occupying about five months. The work of ginning would go on from the first month, and keep pace with the picking.

ALABAMA.

Before the war, I planted largely in this valley, and to some extent in the Mississippi bottom. Here I practised systematically on a six field rotation—two in clover, one in corn, one in

wheat, two in cotton—following in that order. I had four hundred and eighty acres all the time in clover, which was never mowed—not pastured till first of May, and not at all in the winter—and is the best reliance on large places. The manure made about the stables, cow-pens and hog-pens, with the surplus cotton-seed, was hauled in an unfermented state, on the poor places on the lot of two-year old clover, destined for corn the next year.

When a planter pitches his crop, he commences as soon after Christmas as he can, bedding his land by running a furrow with a small plow, every three feet, and throwing to it a furrow on each side, with a two-horse plow, leaving the other two finishing furrows until just before planting time, that he may have the ridge soft and clean.

He will, generally, get around before the middle of March. About the 15th or 20th the corn is planted in this climate. If on clover lay, it should have been fallowed before Christmas. If on land which was in cotton the year previous, it is only laid off with a narrow plow, across the rows, and dropped and covered by two furrows of the same plow.

As soon as the corn is in the ground, the farmer turns to his cotton again. He lacks only two furrows, either made with a big turning plow, or with a “burster” (which is a large shovel with two wooden (plank) mould boards, temporarily nailed on). He may finish several days before it is warm enough to plant cotton. In that, a go-ahead man plows out the middles of his corn.

About the 10th of April, here, (the first in South Alabama,) you commence planting cotton. A little, triangular harrow, with iron teeth, drawn by one horse, to break any crust on the top of the ridge, and to remove any stalks which may have been thrown up on the ridge. The opener follows (drawn by a horse), the droppers, two to each opener, follow, dropping three bushels of seed to the acre, which have been rolled in ashes or gypsum; then it is covered by a block, which compresses the soil upon the seed.

The farmer then turns to his corn, plows it well, hoes it, and thins it with a narrow paddle, three feet long,—no matter how small it is—for he knows that he can't come back for some time.

By this time, say the 5th of May, the cotton is putting out its third leaf, and begins to grow a little. He should run around it with a side-harrow, or a scraper, drawn by a horse, leaving a narrow drill of cotton. The hoes follow, chopping across the drill, with single,

rapid blows, and leaving every blow some cotton, say one to five stalks. When over the crop in this style, it becomes a question of skill how to plow it. If the plant continues small, it is very commonly harrowed again. If the shank or stalk is long enough, the dirt is thrown to it by the broad sweeps. The second time the hoes thin the bunches to one or two stalks. After this, if the plants are kept clean, there is but little trouble, as the culture consists merely of throwing up and taking away the soil, alternately; the broad sweeps being the principal plow used. While all this is going on, however, the farmer must find time to plow his corn occasionally. It rarely gets more than three plowings here; and then more injury is done than good, as people believe, in breaking the roots.

I have given you, briefly and simply, the ordinary mode of cotton culture. If men differ, it is only in details of an immaterial character.

DEMOPOLIS, ALA.

The proper culture of cotton requires first, a deep and thorough preparation of the soil. For this purpose, the Brinly Plow, Nos. 2 and 3, made at Louisville, Ky., is the best, and gives the highest draft with the most thorough work. This plow is of wrought steel—or cast steel, if required. No. 2 drawn by two mules, and No. 3 by two or three, according to the character and condition of the soil. The work of preparation should be begun on the first day of January, in order to finish in time for planting. If time admits, the soil should be “broken up” and bedded, *i. e.*, the plows go round on a level, as nearly as practicable, and throw the earth all one way. Then it is “bedded,” that is, the plows run backward and forward across the broken land, throwing four furrows together in what is technically called a bed. On this bed the cotton is planted after the following manner: A bull-tongue plow is run down the centre of the bed, opening a narrow, straight drill, in which the cotton seeds are drilled, at the rate of about two to six bushels to the acre. Behind the laborer sowing the seed comes a common wooden harrow—or, sometimes, only a board or block, attached to a plow stock—and covers the cotton-seed lightly with earth. The seed usually germinate in about a fortnight. When the cotton is well up, and as early as possible thereafter, it is “scraped” or “barred off,” that is, a plow called a scraper, or a turning plow proper, is run as close as practicable to the young

cotton, leaving it in the drill on a narrow ridge. This barring off is for the assistance of the hoe work, which immediately follows in this manner: The young cotton is "chopped out" with the ordinary steel hoe, leaving bunches of cotton stalks from eight inches to two feet apart. Some planters leave only one or two stalks the first hoeing, and this is best. The cotton being thinned, and "brought to a stand," the rest of the work consists of alternate plowings with wide sweeps, and hoeings by hand. The crop is worked, after being "brought to a stand," from two to seven times with sweeps and hoes. The sweeps are wide shovel plows, from twelve inches to thirty-six inches from wing to wing. They run shallow, not being allowed to enter the ground more than an inch or two, so as not to break the roots of the cotton. The hoe work is one endless and continuous task until the crop is "laid by," which is frequently the middle of August. About this time the cotton begins to open—it begins to bloom, generally, early in July, and "makes" very rapidly,—and the negroes are set to work to pick it as fast as it opens. This work continues on most plantations where a tolerable crop is made, until Christmas, and sometimes into the next year. Ginning is begun, also, and kept up as required to prepare the crop for market. The ginned cotton is packed on damp, still days, to prevent waste. The culture of cotton through the whole of its annual course is a neat and pleasant business, and with proper management, a *decidedly profitable one*. Under the customary contracts with freedmen, giving them one-third of the gross crops, and they supporting themselves, from one hundred to two hundred dollars, net, per "hand," or laborer, can be made.

MACON COUNTY, ALA.

The great desideratum in the successful culture of cotton is a thorough preparation of the land by deep and close plowing,—the deeper the better,—sub-soiled eighteen inches, if possible, and early planting. As soon as all danger from late frosts is over, let the seed be dropped upon well prepared beds and lightly covered with a harrow or board. By furrow planting and prompt cultivation, so as to force the plant, a good "bottom and middle crop" of bolls will almost invariably be secured. Before the late summer rains in August, which were so disastrous to the cotton crop of 1869, come,

these crops will be so far advanced as not to be severely injured, and the "army worm" can only blight the planter's hopes by destroying the "top crop," which is now rarely counted on in many sections. Thorough preparation of the land, furrow planting and brisk cultivation, — once in three weeks — will, in nine cases out of ten, bring a return of from 800 to 1,520 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, according to the strength of the land.

BARBOUR COUNTY, ALA.

I am satisfied we have never plowed deep enough in preparing our lands ; think it ought to be subsoiled with two-horse plows, and the ground broken up at least ten to twelve inches, and after the cotton comes up use nothing but light sweeps ; to hoe would be better as the roots ought never to be disturbed ; our planters are finding this out by experience. I think, hereafter, less land will be planted to the hand and more thorough cultivation and freer use of fertilizers, as guano gives a much better staple and increases the yield. We can make more cotton than we can have gathered ; the great difficulty in a large crop is gathering it. I do not think it can be done ; think labor will decrease ; as the young negroes are not being brought up to work ; and as the old ones die off it will decrease. Our planters are buying good mules and improved plows, and are taking more interest in their farms and homes.

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI.

I have been engaged in the culture of cotton for twenty years. Experience has taught me, that to raise cotton successfully, *thorough preparation* is necessary. All lands intended for cotton should be thoroughly *sub-soiled*. After which, the land should be thrown up in beds six inches high, in rows, varying in width from three to four feet according to quality. In this latitude (central Mississippi), planting should begin as early as the 6th of April, finishing by the 20th, using any simple planter. So soon as the plant is up well, working should be commenced. Never wait for the plant to have from six to eight leaves. In cultivating the plant, work as shallow as possible, to prevent breaking the roots of the plant. Never wait for rain. Work early, rapidly, not quitting too soon, and a fair crop will be the reward of such labor. By this plan a crop escapes, to a great

extent, the ravages of the army worm that usually attacks it about 10th September. By the application of guano, it would be an easy matter to raise from 1,200 to 1,800 pounds seed cotton per acre, on almost any land in this county. Other manures would be valuable in some ratio. Unless the present system of cultivation is changed, I see no reason to prevent our fine lands from becoming a barren waste. A continual drain upon any land will certainly exhaust it after awhile.

LAUDERDALE COUNTY, ALA.

My mode of cultivating the crop is, in dry weather, after the plant is well up, to run around it twice, and sometimes three times, with a side harrow. In wet weather, when the grass grows rapidly, I abandon the harrows, and use the turning plow, running the bar as close as possible without injury to the plant. After going over the crop in this way, I turn back and throw dirt to the cotton with same plow (turning plow). This done, and the weather still wet, I use a single shovel or bull-tongue plow with sweeps on it, still dirting the cotton, and in very wet weather have to use the turning plow—with bar next to cotton the second time; then go back and throw dirt to it again. Cotton requires only one deep plowing, when it is about six weeks or two months old. All that is necessary afterwards, is to stir the ground gently with a harrow, or shovel, and keep the grass down. If the plant is disturbed too often by deep plowing, it grows too rapidly, thereby causing it to mature later, and when this is the case the frost catches and kills the unmaturing bolls. To increase the yield of cotton, the plants should be topped in July, which causes it to cease growing and commence branching and maturing. When the plant takes what is called the "second growth," it stops maturing, which is very injurious. Topping is the only remedy.

HANCOCK COUNTY, GA.

We can double production by a liberal use of manures, vastly increase the cotton crop by improved tools and improved method. We are just going, generally, into a system that I have long practised,—deep preparation, heavy manuring, and shallow culture. This alone can increase the crop of cotton three millions of bales, with the present labor.

MIDDLE ALABAMA.

The yield of cotton to the acre varies so widely because of favorable or unfavorable seasons, and rich or thin land that it is difficult to give you a correct idea. I suppose the average in Alabama ought to be about 700 to 800 lbs; I have known an acre to yield as little as 300 lbs., and I have known one to yield more than 2,000 lbs. An average of 1,750 lbs. seed cotton will make a 500-lb. bale of lint cotton. When the cotton is green it requires 1,850 lbs. ; when quite dry, 1,600 may make it. I think four bales to the hand now a good average ; I have, with extra seasons, made eight, before Emancipation, and thought my crop a failure if I did not make more than four. Extremes of wet or dry are bad; wet is the most disastrous, first, because of its direct damage to the crop, causing the cotton to cast its forms and small bolls, and large ones to rot more or less ; but its greatest damage is in directly developing the drill and army worm; the former drills a hole into the boll and shope; if into the shope or small boll, it is fatal to that shope or boll; if into the large boll, it ruins the division of the boll pierced; the latter, or army worm, denudes the stalk in a few days of its leaves, and has the effect of an early frost.

Much attention is being paid to improvement of staple, both by the purchase of improved seed, — *very* large prices being paid for some, as for example, Mr. Dickson's "improved," — as well as by improvement on the plantation by selection. Efforts are made to produce *long* staple with large yield ; we would suggest that the consumer would prefer cotton with strong staple, well cleaned and handled, to great length, as for most goods extra length is not desirable with present processes of manufacture. The deterioration of labor in so many sections since the war has been made evident to the consumer by careless preparation for the market. The planter may be assured that more attention to the quality of his crop, as well as to quantity, will not fail to *pay*. We were in hopes that by getting the results of the experience of so many planters, we should be able to point out the best gin, but there seem to be as

many favorites as different patterns, and comparison where there is no *very decided* pre-eminence, would be out of place. The Gillet, Carver, and Pratt's, received the more numerous encomiums. A practical planter has suggested the following economies as valuable in preparing the crop for market: "All the trash might be put through an opener; thus a large amount of pickings and inferior cotton fitted for bagging, etc., could be saved from waste and sent to market. Cotton might be baled in small bales on plantation with iron hoops, one fourth present size, weighing each two hundred and fifty pounds, so as to make easier handling, and save the 'stealage' of the cotton presses at the ports, inevitable from the present picking and rebaling."*

CATERPILLAR AND OTHER ENEMIES.

"Labor on the decrease;
Worms on the increase."

Truly a poor out-look. It seems as if since the war the caterpillars had caused more havoc, had been more abundant, and their ravages had been more extensively felt than before; owing, probably, in some neighborhoods at least, to the fields not being so thoroughly cleaned of brush, etc., as they used to be, thereby giving the miller a better chance to lay eggs. For the caterpillar there seems to be no remedy known. A system of small farm culture will do much to decrease the evil, as a small field can be watched more closely, and the first crop of millers be more thoroughly killed; the land can be kept cleaner than in large plantations.

Keeping the land clear, rotation of crops, high manur-

* See Appendix H.

ing and early planting so as to force the crop to early maturity before the arrival of the destroyer, are efficient preventives of harm ; and the free use of fertilizers, so noticeable this year on the uplands will, let us hope, stimulate the crop to rapid growth, and be a safeguard for a large crop. Plates of molasses and vinegar, as well as lights at night are often quoted as defences, but we never saw a planter who was very enthusiastic about their effectiveness. All other enemies to the cotton plant are more easily defeated, except, of course, the army worm when he comes. Planting late corn in alternate rows with cotton will usually, it is said, prevent the ravages of the boll-worm, as it prefers the silk of the corn to the cotton as a place of deposit for eggs. Topping is sometimes used also. Land-plaster, ashes and lime are considered preventives of the cut-worm and cotton-louse.

STOCK.

Much is said of the desirability of the food crop for the support of the farm, as well as stock on the Southern farms, but the planter finds it impossible, at present, to raise stock, and particularly hogs, on account of the irrepressible thieving of the plantation freedmen. Is there any way of putting a stop to this evil, so that the South can raise its own pork? Giving the hands part ownership, will in time, no doubt, remedy the evil, and the time will come, it is to be hoped, when the negro will be educated to a point where he will not steal ; but until that time comes, penning up the hogs for most of the year is the only practicable method. We give below the remarks of a gentleman who has had large experience, and whose opinions are of great weight :

HOG RAISING IN THE SOUTH.

In the fall of the year, when food is plenty on the plantation, hogs might be left out to range, and few be stolen ; but that is just the time when they should be kept close-penned, quiet, and well fed, so as to be fat for killing by Christmas, or first hard freeze.

Keep none but good breeds of hogs, such as show their keeping—none of the long-limbed racers that are always hungry and squealing ; but the round-barrel, short-legged, quiet creatures like the Berkshire or Chester County (Penn.) breeds. The Suffolk are very choice, but would burn too much under the hot sun in the South, because of their delicate skin and thin hair.

Any animal kept still, will keep fat on less food than if moving about actively. The hog is a notable illustration of this. Those who have not tried it will be surprised to see how little corn meal, scalded, will keep hogs growing and fat, added to the waste green stuff on a plantation, if the hogs are kept from moving much, and have shelter from cold storms.

When corn is worth only forty cents a bushel on the plantation, it will pay to pen all the hogs, and fatten them on corn meal swill, at eight cents per pound, for the pork.

Required.—The pens, best made by a stockade of logs set in the ground, sawed off to a straight line, at six or seven feet height, and then a binding log pinned down upon the whole. The gate fitted with a good lock. In the yard should be water, or a chance to lead it into troughs. If there is a low, wet place, or “ wallow,” be sure that there is also a dry place, well sheltered from cold winds and storms — spread with straw in cold weather.

Corn fed in the ear is partly wasted. *Always have it shelled.* Then it will expend much further in making pork, if ground, and still further by scalding it and getting a little fermentation. If there is not plenty of other belly-filling stuff, have some corn and cobs ground together. That meal does good service when scalded.

The advantage of penning the hogs is three-fold ; it prevents stealing, it makes better meat, and last but not least, by so doing you *save the manure.*

Everything goes to show that cotton culture at the South requires, and will be forced to adopt, the improved processes and tools used in the North and Europe — seed-planters, guano-distributors, improved ploughs and harrows, thorough drainage, to plant less land and manure more thoroughly, deep preparation, shallow cultivation, rotation of crops, fields fenced and cleared, corn and stock raised, hogs penned, and all manure saved ; all these helping to increase the yield to the acre, thereby producing more cotton with less hands.

CONDITION OF THE SOUTH,

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL.

With regard to the political condition of the South and its economical and social aspects, it is hard to speak assuredly. Whilst there might be no actual ill usage the want of sympathy with a Northerner coming to settle amongst them, mutual lack of charity for mutual prejudices and opinions, and the deep-seated dislike to the "Yankee" would make a moral incubus on the new comer, who would often find himself "tabooed and a stranger" in the new community in which he placed himself. The letters which follow present a varied view of the political, economical and social situation.

MONTGOMERY CO., TEXAS,

I am a very early settler of Texas; emigrated here in 1830; was present at the birth of the Republic of Texas, and hence cannot fail to entertain a very lively interest in whatever may tend to develop her vast and varied resources and capabilities into usefulness, as well to the benefit of our common country, and the world generally, as of ourselves.

There is scarce any part of the State that is not adapted to the successful production of cotton. Land, which in other Southern States would be only capable of producing four or five hundred

pounds seed cotton to the acre, will here, under the more favorable conditions of a *permanent clay subsoil*, together with those of climate, latitude, etc., produce eight hundred to one thousand pounds, or from two hundred and sixty to three hundred and thirty-three pounds of clean cotton to the acre; our cottons yielding generally a larger proportion of lint to the seed than is obtained in other States enjoying a *less saline atmosphere* than we do. Our coast lands produce equally fine Sea Island cotton with Carolina and Florida. We have lands in Texas that have, under completely favorable conditions, produced four thousand pounds of seed cotton to the acre. In these conditions good management was a large element of success. Under like management, and good "operative labor," we can, on two-thirds of the lands of Texas average, (favorable seasons) two thousand pounds seed cotton, or over a bale, to the acre. We cannot, however, do so as readily as before emancipation, because the former "operative system" under a skilful manager, does not obtain to a like extent; and the intelligence of the laborer, the freedman, not being equal to the advantages freedom has bestowed upon him, we cannot secure the uniform good or productive returns that formerly attended on cotton growing. The thinking among us do not believe the great mass of free persons are to be relied on for the *continuous production* of cotton; hence the obvious utility of the enterprise you desire to inaugurate of inducing emigration from Europe to our cotton lands.

Mr. S., of Georgia, has all of his former slaves remaining on his plantations—they *grew up with him*—and he testifies that they perform as much labor as when slaves, but from *native incapacity to work to productive advantage*, they do not make half as much to the hand as they formerly did. And Mr. S. is esteemed very reliable and *impartial* authority—in fact, it is our common experience verified daily. Hence, so much of the world as are dependent on, or look to the United States for their supply of cotton, must be deeply interested in the introduction to the South of white, reliable laborers, in numbers adequate to the demand for cotton growing, and who will labor in its production *operatively under a manager*, as in manufactories,—for in fact a *cotton plantation is practically a manufactory of raw cotton*. Not less than ten laborers, large and small, working under a manager, will suffice to ensure the successful and economical production of cotton, which requires constant care and attention the season through.

Permit me to suggest that to the successful effectuation of your prospectively useful labors, it is essential that the public northern mind, and capitalists, and the people of those European states from which labor and emigration are desired, should be disabused of the injurious and false reports which interested parties, from one motive or another, have so long circulated in regard to the Southern people, and as to the insecurity of life and property among them

We have to compete for Northern and Eastern emigration, and for European emigration and labor, with many able and organized communities of capitalists, who seek by the most energetic and comprehensive measures and inventions, by skilful and astute agents and agencies distributed over, and traversing Europe in every direction to secure settlers upon, and purchasers of, their lands in the Western States. And an effective part of these measures is to represent the Southern States as bodies of organized banditti, whose vocations are attended with all manner of violence. Office-seekers, too, who wish to have permanent military and other rule maintained, that they may live upon us, endeavor constantly to misrepresent us before the Government.

But we hope to have a change for the better ; the *consciousness* of security which the administration of General Grant will afford to capital, will, without doubt, work *the changes necessarily incident to the restoration of the South to her former producing power and prosperity*. In this restoration the people of every State in the Union are deeply interested, and the Government and its revenues no less, for cotton, like the "Nile," fertilizes and fructifies wherever it goes—or *flows*.

The security which it is supposed General Grant will afford to capitalists and investments in the South, has really existed ever since the surrender of our army. No people ever maintained the terms of their surrender with equal faith *and will*. But no people were ever so maligned and misrepresented.

Immediately after the war, eastern merchants and traders, knowing the scarcity of supplies which prevailed in the South, came with large supplies of goods, and realizing large profits, sought, to a greater or lesser extent, to prevent, by misrepresentation, others from coming to divide the profits they obtained. The desire for monopoly and exclusiveness is natural to the human family—here it produced very prejudicial effects upon our good name. These merchants and

traders traversed this State in every direction at all times in perfect security; do so now, and have done so at all times. There are no opinions tabooed; *in all respects* freedom and security exist with Northern people in Texas.

It is a general wish, frequently expressed, that we could have northern farmers, mechanics, inventors, and others come and settle among us; introduce their labor-saving machinery, practise and teach us their systems and economies; help to restore prosperity; be with us as one people, and enjoy with us the benefit of our joint labors.

I would suggest where persons desire to remove to nearer countries, and embrace Texas in their consideration, that they send out one of their number prospecting us and our State. *Making their object known, etc., I am fully satisfied that they will meet not only with security, but much kindness and attention*, and so can guarantee it to them.

Until lately, notwithstanding the exertions of many good men, the public Northern mind was not prepared to believe or think anything good of the South. There are signs now that these labors, like bread cast upon the waters, returning after many days, are beginning to have an ameliorating influence. We trust that it may prevail until, in the fullest sentiment of unity and fraternity, there will be no sections in the United States (or sectionality).

RUTHERFORD Co., TENN.

I will confine myself to a comparison between slave labor and free labor, and their effectiveness in developing the resources of the South. Others will give you the mode of cultivating cotton, which is much the same everywhere. In the days of slavery labor was always scarce in the South, especially after the suppression of the slave trade (which was a ligature placed on the main artery of supply), owing to the increase of the slaves here being the only source left. The high prices for which slaves were sold or hired induced those purchasing or hiring to cultivate with them more land than they were able to do justice to; but, owing to the fertility of the soil (it being new and fresh, and kept so by cleaning, not manuring), very good crops were made. By this pernicious system of constantly clearing and turning out worn out land to wear out still more, unprotected by anything, the farms grew to immense proportions, and paid but

a very small per cent on their cost. Slave labor was too costly to cultivate poor land with; hence their scarcity in poor districts, and their majority in wealthy or fertile ones. There was but little demand for foreign or free labor then, as the two systems could not be worked well together. Slavery was a troublesome and expensive institution, penned up in the South, absorbing its very life-blood; and now, since it is gone forever, all sensible and unprejudiced people thank God for it. There are many other points of difference between slave and free labor; but this one, of limited supply and consequent expensiveness, that I have dwelt on so long, is the principal one. It is true, that we have this same trouble now even more, for we have no other labor except that of our former slaves, and they have greatly decreased, and do not work as well (all of them); still we think that the future prospect of the South is brighter now than ever. We think that when the people of the world, through such enterprises as the one you are engaged in, become acquainted with the fertility of our soil, the salubrity of our climate, and the *peaceful* disposition of our people, our land will no longer lie idle, but will give up its riches to the industrious foreigner. Labor is not so much wanting in the vicinity of towns and railroad depots as in more retired places, on account of indisposition in the negroes to go to such places. Middle Tennessee, with her generous soil, capable of producing everything, is peculiarly adapted to the European emigrant, as he will here find a climate differing but little from his own; a soil well watered with good, cool and healthy water; fine fruit, and a hospitable people. It was known in the Confederate army as "God's own country."

HALE CO., ALABAMA.

Prospectively I see nothing to encourage the cotton planter as to labor for the present generation. The African seems to be peculiarly adapted by nature to the cultivation of cotton in this country; the white race never will raise it successfully, I care not where they come from, because it requires labor from January to January, and frequently under a summer's sun with the thermometer ranging from 90 to 100 degrees. The African don't mind it—the white man won't stand it. Then with an eye solely to the increased production of cotton, the policy would be to import the native African as laborers for the South as rapidly as possible; but whether it would be best for the South, socially, politically and morally, is another question.

FAIRFIELD CO., S. C.

There is no future for the cotton of this State under its present laws. No country can prosper in any department of agriculture, or in any other branch of civilization, in which the good are ruled by the bad, the wise by the foolish, the brave by the cowardly, the learned by the ignorant, the enlightened by the savage, the white by the black. Read history from the days of Adam down ; divest yourselves of prejudice, if you have any, and bring up my proposition before the tribunal of common sense, and of volumes of written experience, and deny it if you can. We deserve no success of any kind, ruled as we are by nigger hog-rogues, and meaner white dogs. Here, then, in my opinion, is the great obstacle in the way of a cotton crop ; there is more to be accomplished here at home than by urging "emigration" from abroad. Can you, sirs, advise decent settlers to come here under our present regime ? The first inquiry of every man about to emigrate, is in reference to the laws of his expected new home. What can you say of ours ? Foreigners, almost to a man, have an antipathy to the negro ; how, then, can you expect him to resign himself to the tender mercies of these new law-givers—he must be ruled, his wife forced to social equality, and his children educated with negroes at *his expense*. I wish you success in your undertaking, but my feeble judgment tells me that you will fail.

I have no prejudice to the negro only as a *ruler*. I believe them to be the best cotton laborers in the world, under good laws. Teach him to be honest, and *compel* him to be industrious, and I want no better laborer. Let him know that if he steals for his living, as he now does, he will not be tried by a scallawag judge, nor a negro jury, and that if convicted he will not be turned loose by a Yankee Governor, who is already using the pardoning power for his re-election.

Good laws will drive him from the cities and towns to honest labor in the country, and from the school-house ; education is good, but a big, lazy *buck* nigger should not be allowed to go to school in the day, and steal for the support of his family at night. These are a few, very few, of our difficulties, and should be remedied before we ask settlers to come amongst us.

CHARLESTON CO., S. C.

My rooted conviction is that the Southern whites will never do the negroes justice if they can possibly keep them down. They will wrong them and oppress them in every way. That is my firm opinion, drawn from the multitude of facts which happen every day, all about me. A tourist from the north would probably get a more favorable opinion of the rebels, particularly if he were known to be a business man. They are always on their good behavior in cars and steam-boats. These things I *know*. I am also beginning to *fear* that the blacks are not sufficiently courageous to stand up against their old masters. The old owners not only murder them with almost entire impunity—thus keeping them, in a great many parts of the south, from voting—but they keep them in subjection by dismissing them from employment if not of the right political stripe. It is an avowed and universal practice. You can see how degrading and demoralizing this must be to the poor negroes. I don't see any help for this, except by giving them land, or enabling them to purchase it. Just think of it: almost all the municipal officers elected in the State during the fall, are opposed by the former incumbents, and actually kept out of their offices, without a shadow of reason. The elected persons have to appeal to the courts. But in many cases they have no money or have been intimidated, and given up the contest. There is a great deal of slavish admiration for the old aristocracy among the free colored people, and they always have a tendency to vote for them. A great many have actually gone over.

PIKE CO., MISS.

The great wants of the South are, first, a fixed and stable Government—unfortunately almost every one here mingled more or less in the late war, and hence all the better portion of our population are ostracised,—and consequently the people look with some anxiety to a government formed by the ignorant and vicious. Our next want is labor, and intelligent agricultural information to guide it. In the first place our labor is deficient in quantity, and its quality is as worthless as you can well imagine. Could some of the intelligence and energy that pervades the North be transferred to the South, our waste places would be soon built up, and the production of our lands would greatly increase the material wealth of the country.

PANOLA CO., MISS.

The anomalous condition of Mississippi, and of the Southern States generally; the very great uncertainties of the near future; the scarce and rapidly diminishing labor of our country, and a series of unfavorable crop-seasons, all together, render it almost if not quite impossible to fix upon any definite, positive systematic line of operations in the way of producing cotton, or carrying on a farm generally in the South. Hence my replies to the interrogatories of your circular are not satisfactory or business-like.

With the sad experiences of the past four years fresh in our minds, and with a laboring population in our midst, who are unstable, unskilled and most thoroughly demoralized, we cannot feel sufficient confidence in the future to settle down permanently, and with coats off, sleeves up, go into it like men.

It is true the price of cotton is high, and it would seem that all who can, would eagerly seize the opportunity to make it. Yet lands all around me are untilled and idle, clearly demonstrating the reluctance and hesitancy with which we work. It is exceedingly difficult to get white laborers to emigrate to a country where they will be thrown into contact with the negro, and especially to a region, the object of hostile legislation in our representative assemblies, both Federal and States or "Provincial." We all look with tremulous expectancy for the coming of that "peace" which is to heal the wounds of war, and harmonize the heterogeneous elements of Southern society. We are *very sick* with the "hope deferred," however, and unless Gen. Grant and the political doctors at Washington do something soon in the way of relief, the South will become a chronic, festering sore in the side of its healthy twin-brother, the North.

I wish I could give you a detailed business statement in answer to your questions, that would be encouraging and satisfactory.

I will, however, say this, — we all made money last year, both employer and employee, for the first time since the war. The proprietor is encouraged and cheerful, comparatively, — the freedmen are happy and apparently contented, and are entering with more zest into operations for 1869. If the United States Government, or the Cotton-Supply Association, or both combined, can manage to keep up prices, there is some probability of harmony sufficient between the two races, as to render this country far more attractive to emigrants from the North or abroad, than it has been for three years past.

As for the prospective yield this year, it cannot vary far from its post-bellum predecessors. In addition to the causes I have heretofore assigned for this belief, there is one other; to wit, the almost entire disappearance of the colored women from the cotton-fields, — and so of many of the children; — schools are springing up over the country for freedmen's children, and they are being well patronised. The idle and thriftless among the males refuse utterly to work on cotton-farms, and flock to cities and villages. Hence you will observe the difficulty of increasing our last year's crop of cotton. There has been no addition to the number of white cotton producers in the South, or comparatively none.

MISSISSIPPI.

The South, financially, is better off to-day than at any time even before the war; they are now prepared to make a larger crop than any year since 1860, and this without going into debt to do so; their surplus capital will also enable them to hold, should the price of staple fall to that of last year. Many of them accompany their shipments to place of sale, or dispose of it themselves at home, not relying upon the merchant to do their trading — this development of character, from being thrown on their own resources, is also working in their favor by discarding the old theories and practices which are giving way to the modern improvements and ideas. The dislike to free colored labor is working out, but some time will elapse before the same will be systematized, and the colored man have confidence in the employer, which will result in dependence being placed on laborers.

ISSAQUENA CO., MISS.

In New Orleans, where money has always been so high, I could not get interest on funds in a merchant's hands, as he said he could not make any use of the money as they would not lend to planters, and the legislation of the State renders all securities unsafe. The negroes, since they have become producers on their own account, keep a large amount of money in circulation in the country, and consume on a much larger scale than formerly, which makes the business of supplying them as lucrative, if not more so, than planting or renting.

NORTH CAROLINA.

If men in the impoverished condition in which they have been for two years, and paying 2 1-2 to 5 *per cent a month* for money to buy supplies with, can make a crop, what can be done when they once again are enabled to obtain money at fair interest? Not one tenth of the ability of the South has yet been developed.

CAMDEN CO., ARK.

As to any steady going emigrant from any quarter of the world being unwelcome among us, that is a slander upon our people. We cannot say much upon that point without touching politics, which should never be mentioned between business men. But politics and politicians in our time will obtrude themselves in spite of the best intentions. Our people generally are practically disfranchised. Strangers coming here with the power to vote, while the natives of the soil cannot, — or voting according to their conscience, are not counted, — has a bad effect. It seems like the new comers are to be the dominant race, and the natives a subjugated people. We have now, at the risk of saying too much, laid open to you the only ground for the statement that new men are not welcome among us. We cannot but hope that all this, left to the operation of natural causes, will pass away with the asperity growing out of the war. The generation of young people is now rapidly coming on in the South to take the places of those whose traditions were the cause of war. More young men now follow the plow and drive the teams. The clan called "planters" is passing away with what was called the "planting system," and henceforward cotton is to be made by farmers working themselves in the field, like the farmers at the North. It is very rare now for our warehouses to have in store a crop lot of cotton exceeding twenty-five or thirty bales — and it is more frequently seven or ten bales.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Any Northern person or family coming here with the object of settling and living in our midst, would meet with a cordial reception and welcome. Some of our most respected citizens and their descendants are from Boston and other parts of the North.

I may be blinded by partiality to this section, but I prefer it to

any part of the country I have seen for many reasons ; it is a belt of country lying just between the cold, hilly, clay country, and the sickly alluvial lands of the low country, producing cotton, and nearly all kinds of grain and fruit. Should persons visit this section with the object of purchasing land, they will meet with a hearty reception.

It is too often only the refuse of the North that visit the South, and not being acquainted with the decencies and proprieties of life, get themselves into trouble, and then a hue and cry is raised and spread throughout the North, of the *ferocity and brutality* of the Southern people, and there is a *mutual* misunderstanding. I will close here ; perhaps I may have said too much, but it is in all sincerity.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Let me add, here, that the thousand reports of outrages committed on Northern people are false in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, and find their origin in the frenzied brain of designing politicians who trade in the misfortunes of the South.

FLORIDA.

In answer to your question as to "whether the social condition or Northern men in the South, is as comfortable as it is in the North, and whether it is likely to improve as time goes on, and the present political questions become settled," I should say no, to the former and yes, to the latter interrogation.

The experience of most Northern men in the South in this respect, since the war closed, has not been encouraging. That it should have been so was clearly natural after such great sacrifices and sufferings on the part of the Southern people ; that these relations of social indifference on the part of the old landed proprietors toward us should have become intensified into a feeling of dislike, and in many instances of gross inhospitality and maltreatment even, was even more natural, when we think of the gigantic struggle which, since the war closed, has been waged in the interest of their former slaves, by Northern men residing in their midst. The victims generally to, the many depredations and wrongs committed upon Northern men have been that class of men whom the South have delighted to call "carpet-baggers." In many instances gross provocation has called forth this unfriendly display of hostility, but murder and assassination

never can be productive of good results, and of late months very few have occurred. In my opinion the carpet-bag prestige and power is to be short-lived, and in the measure of its duration will its effects be felt upon the social status of all Northern settlers in the South. No political anomaly can long exist, especially when the well-being and peace of the community are threatened by it.

Some men of wealth and good social standing in the North, have formed exceptions to this rule from the fact that the tendency of the South has been toward an aristocracy. Family connections and wealth have generally awed the poor whites into sullen allegiance and quasi respect.

Since the election of General Grant, however, a great change for the better in this respect has undoubtedly transpired, and the prevalent tone of the South is decidedly moderate. In fact, if success is at all commensurate with their professions and desires, the south will not be long in its present sparsely populated condition, and Northern ideas and customs will be fixed facts.

A similar moderation is noticeable also upon the part of the carpet-bag shoal of politicians, and even they begin, also, to see the folly of their ways. They see that no country can flourish under the dominion of an ignorant minority, and that their own best interests are to be gained only through an attempt to fix their own best security of lives and property.

Consequently, then, the eyes of both parties and both races are opening wider and wider every year, and as time goes on the negro must become satisfied that his own welfare is intimately bound up with the moral and physical welfare of the former master. All sensible Southern men are unanimous now for emigration; in many counties of the States of Virginia and Georgia and Florida, agricultural and emigration societies have been formed, and Northern settlers are promised the best of lands and treatment; the land in many instances as gifts.

My own unqualified advice would be to the Northern man who desired to settle in the South, not to hesitate one instant on grounds of personal insecurity. My advice, also, would be to him, not to interfere immediately with politics, and aspire too speedily for the emoluments of office.

The South is a great country, and has many good people in it. These people have been for many years deprived of education and of

the free school privileges of the North ; that their civilization should have been thus retarded is not unnatural. No office-holders and office-seekers, however pure their motives, can expedite civilization when they are hated and abhorred by the communities in which they reside. My idea is, moreover, that twenty years from now, education will have become so much more diffused through the South, owing to the issues of the war, that the South will need no loyal influence in its county court rooms and its senate chambers to ensure the maintenance of law and order. The political aspect of the south at present is unfavorable. It is, however, far more favorable than at any previous period since the war. It can never reach a peaceable aspect until its political issues become changed. The personal nature of the conflict of the last two years, rendered it more bitter than any of the sectional conflicts of the Northern states. Fifty years from now black and white, in my opinion, will differ only as to the color of their skins. The black is not revengeful, and is not grateful, either. He neither remembers his betrayer nor his benefactor. Consequently, can we hesitate, then, to hope hereafter that no pernicious influence will be brought to bear upon him, and that those that already exist will become modified through wisdom and experience ?

When I advise Northern men who go to the South to live, to steer clear of politics, I do so not because I believe that they are any less cognizant of the demand of good civil policy than Southern born men, but simply because I believe it to be far more expedient for them socially. They ought, it seems to me, to show some further passport to the good will and suffrages of their fellow citizens, than the mere locality of their birth. Undoubtedly after they have become identified with the locality in which they reside and have made themselves appreciated and understood by their neighbors, they can more comfortably to themselves, and more justifiably to the community, undertake the trade of politician. To me it seems at the present time wholly impossible for a Northern man to reconcile a political life in the South with a successful and comfortable life as a farmer or a tradesman.

SOUTHERN ALABAMA.

Now, as to the general prospect before us, I think I may say I have never seen so good a prospect for men who are willing to earn bread by sweating, but I am of the opinion that there is no use here

for men to do light work, there being plenty of idlers here. In fact we have quite a surplus of that class on hand now, and here I may say, in a country so exclusively agricultural as this is we need but few middle men ; we do need men of industry, energy and economy ; we need capital, we need confidence, we need a better moral feeling, more honesty, less whiskey, less tobacco, more schools, more toleration, more liberty of opinion, less proscription, and more work. As to lands, they are advancing. Rents are not advancing so much, as there is a demand for laborers on the railroad. And the fact that most of the white men have determined not to work, makes less demand for lands than there should be, and then the foolish idea of our people that it will not do to tolerate a Yankee, has its influence. In fact, had Seymour and Blair been elected, I have no idea any Republican could have lived here in peace ; it was most intolerable before the election. A little wholesome fear has exercised an influence for good since that, while it is apparent to any and every man that there is yet a latent desire to rule or ruin.

NORTHERN GEORGIA.

The blacks are fond of joining each other in building, or in lending their labors to each other, which is a capital proof of their mutual good feeling for success.

Schools should be supplied which can be kept in buildings built for church-houses, the land given to the community of *blacks* alone. Control of the land, etc., should be given for this purpose without any right to whites to use churches or meeting-houses for political harangues.

HANCOCK CO., GA.

We can make cotton enough at fair prices, to supply two such worlds as this, and can soon accumulate the means to make ten millions of bales in less than five years, and can carry it to twenty millions in less than twenty years. The best plan is for a man to judge what can be done by what has been done, with due allowance for other improvements ; we will see, taking my operations five years before the war, as a basis.

I made twelve to fifteen bales to the hand, and double the amount of provisions that was consumed on the place, raising mules and

horses to keep up the loss. Say one million of laborers, ten bales per hand, are ten millions of bales. This is easily accomplished ; look on the map of cotton states and you will see there is that many field hands to spare to cotton, and more.

A population can work about one half the hands when females work, as the black population do. Negroes make good cotton hands at sixteen years old, and can assist at seven years old ; at twelve, good half hands.

You can be able to make your own calculation on a safe basis, that in less than twenty years the South can make twenty millions of bales of cotton per annum, if it can be sold at prices that will pay. If we do not arrive at this conclusion, the fault will not be ours, but the course of the Government. I have carried the yield of cotton on pine land up to two bales per acre, taking the whole field ; selecting a part at the rate of four bales per acre. The people at the South were never so ripe for improvement as now, only waiting for equality under the Constitution.

There is only one thing I would suggest, except what I have above, that is, give us cheap manures ; give us salt free of duty ; treat with the Peruvian government to furnish Peruvian guano in all the Southern ports at the same price as New York and Baltimore, and lower, now, if possible.

It takes now about three hands to produce as much cotton as before the war, but this can be remedied by giving capital the same protection as labor, and letting talent, virtue and honesty prevail and govern. Do you think a man can govern labor as well when the laborer can hold office and can vote, and his employer cannot do either ? If you do, you still have something to learn on that point.

I will add, there is not a single old slaveholder that is looking to a restoration of slavery. If left to Georgia, it would be voted down. There was always a great jealousy between the non-slaveholder and slaveholder. There is no danger of there ever being an effort from this quarter to re-establish slavery ; we look on that question as settled forever.

If General Grant should declare that he would be the President of the whole country, and carry it out, he would be a second Washington.

Society, we must remember, is just reorganizing itself after a desperate conflict, in which all the worse, as well as all the better, passions had full play. The old law-holders and law-makers are replaced by new, often untrained and ignorant, and often doubtless adventurers and demagogues richly deserving the scathing epithets which are lavished upon them. In sparsely settled communities like most of those throughout the farming regions of the South, law and order had, before the war, naturally little control and their condition presents now, of course, fewer of the conditions of good government—protection to “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Doubtless many of the accounts of outrages which come to us are colored to suit the picturesque fancy of the newspaper reporter, or may even, as is suggested in our replies, be manufactured for political purposes; but the records of the courts show a great disregard for human life, a greater willingness to take it for a difference of political or social opinion, or for a real or fancied injury, than is consistent with true republicanism, or than civilized communities should endure.

All this, however, we believe to be rapidly passing away; and as the South increases in population, as railroads are built; as from intercourse between North and South we become better acquainted with each other, and the fact becomes recognized that a man may actually differ from you in opinion without being a ‘scalawag,’ a ‘carpet-bagger’ and a ‘thieving radical,’ we believe it will become possible for a man to live where he chooses *South* or *North* without wrapping his conscience in cotton wool and carrying it in his pocket, and be accepted and esteemed as a good neighbor and a useful citizen.

It is but natural that the present anomalous condition of

the South should give rise to complaint and ill-feeling in a society which has been so completely upturned that the lowest element in it becomes the ruling power ; but, on the whole, we think it must be admitted the negroes have borne the test well. It is but just to keep in mind that the existing race was brought up in slavery, — a system which regarded and used them as beasts of burden, tools without individual moral liability, and it is unreasonable to expect that a moral growth thus stunted, should, on being left to its own devices show that consciousness of individual obligation which can come only with education and influences more civilizing than were ever brought to bear upon them in the state of servitude.

Their ignorance it is which makes them the ready tools of demagogues, from abroad and from amongst their own color, whose teachings so often mislead them as to their true rights, and *education* alone can convert them into useful citizens, with a just appreciation of what "freedom" signifies and confers. We think that later our Southern fellow citizens will see their own self-interest in the establishment everywhere of free schools — *above all for the blacks.*

It is only as time goes on and the black becomes better educated that his *labor* will be properly effective. The first impulse of the slave so long confined to one place by the will of a master, was to prove his new freedom from restraint by going where he willed — whence came the vagrancy and roving character so much complained of. Permanent homes, regular methods of life, thrift and industry, a better understanding of "mine and thine," will grow as the country grows in intelligence and better self-government — which will in their turn increase the number and invigorate the force of the laborers now in the South.

DEMAND FOR IMMIGRANTS.

But no possible growth in the labor now there can answer the cry which comes from all sides for "more capital, more labor; money to build up towns, to establish factories and railroads; money to buy more and better stock and tools; men with brains and energy, and muscle to work them."

Expressions like the following repeat themselves in almost every letter we receive, and from every portion of the country.

Black laboreres seem to be passing away; we need capital, capital, capital, and reliable labor; I must acknowledge the blacks are greatly improving in their habits of industry, if we could keep *mean* Northern people away from them, who intoxicate them with fabulous tales.

Immigrants are wanted by all, and from every quarter; mechanics artisans, and workers of all trades,—men to till the soil.

Honest, industrious and intelligent laborers are needed, and good fertilizers, good and improved tools, and capital; until we are supplied with intelligent labor, we can make but little improvement in farming. Negroes know very little about the use of machinery, and are too careless to be entrusted with it. We have no caterpillars or army worms here in Tennessee.

It becomes harder to get labor every year. We need, first and foremost, labor; then railroads and a *better government*. With industrious and intelligent white labor, I am satisfied there would be a wonderful improvement. Indeed, with the right kind of labor we could make two or even three bales of cotton per acre, with as great ease as we now make three-fourths of a bale.

Labor is the question; negro is gone; Coolies or Chinese may be worked, I think, and it will be tried.

The chief needs of our neighborhood is labor, labor. No farm

all cultivated, thousands of acres lie idle on the river, and back from the river still more.

Laborers are scarce throughout the South, one-half of the plantations of the South are idle, — uncultivated. Send us labor, labor, labor, labor.

It is a great deal harder to get laborers, money, mules. Internal improvements, and "*Yankee farmers*," who know how to economize, — these are what we want. Farms are growing smaller on account of labor, and changing hands and dividing up in small tracts, but no change in the mode of cultivating.

We want labor, labor, emigrants ; men with capital and enterprise, civil law and educated legislators, — not ignorant negroes. With capital and intelligent labor, great improvements may be made. For the two past years, negroes would not commence work until February ; consequently work is behind the season. This involves the keeping of more mules than formerly, by at least one-third.

Immigrants are wanted by thousands; every inducement will be offered they can expect elsewhere, greatly increased, — except society, schools, religious privileges, etc., growing out of a more densely populated country.

It will be more difficult from year to year to get laborers. Send us emigrants, we have room for all good men. We want good schools, good churches, and good neighbors. The negro is the prevailing element here ; send your people to develop our resources and we will pay you in national wealth.

We need everything but land and climate,—*capital, management* and *ambition*,— muscle, (in other words a plenty of the article), — "live men." The soil and climate call loudly for workers.

We might go on and print page after page of similar extracts.

Such is the demand for labor—a demand which the present negro population falls far short of satisfying,—and though the apparent vitality of the race will probably prevent its dying out, as some have predicted, there are no

indications of any increase from this source sufficient to supply the demand. Emigration is more likely to set to than from Africa, and whilst the increasing of the race received every encouragement from the slave owner, the negro become free is averse to children.

WHITE LABOR.

It is to white immigration, therefore, that the South has mainly to look to develop the resources of its soil and climate, and the question becomes of vital interest whether the white man can labor under its burning sun — a question to which the extracts annexed give varied answers.

NORTHERN GEORGIA.

In relation to the Southern slaves, the Northern people, some of them, had an erroneous idea of their situation; they were far better off as a mass of people, than they are now; you would believe so if you were here; they are lazy and will not work; the North is responsible for their conduct and not the South; they are diminishing as fast as a people can; they finally will go as the Indian has gone. I let my plantation out to tenants both white and black; they pay me one-fourth of all they make for rent; when we had slaves there was as much attachment to him as there was to one of our children, in some cases more. I will admit there were some families that treated their blacks cruelly, but it was a rare thing; they were the happiest people on earth; we made 5,000,000 bales of cotton during slavery; now the South makes only 2,500,000 bales of cotton. It gets more money than it did during slavery times, that is one cause that I object to emigrants coming to this country; there is one class of people I would like to see come here, that is the Northern man who has his millions of dollars to build up — who will build up cotton mills, — we have the power here; we have the water power here, plenty to do the work of the whole world, we have the best climate in the world. I believe the Northern people will come. The twenty-third of February was the first snow storm we have had this winter, the thermometer rarely gets over 98° and under 23°.

ALABAMA.

My opinion as regards the development of the capacity of the South for the production of cotton, is, that this development *to its full extent*, can never be reached except by a system of apprenticeship of some of the African or Asiatic tribes to increase the labor force of the South by introducing such labor as is adapted to the climate. Immigration of Caucasians will not accomplish the desired object. I am satisfied that if the South were peopled as thick as the New England States, with European immigrants, there would be less cotton raised there than now. Cotton is not the only staple of the South, and it is a question whether it is the most profitable one at ordinary prices. Europeans and Northern immigrants would raise wheat, corn, etc., cultivated in early spring in cool weather, and cattle and hogs pay well here; if those paid even nearly as well as cotton, they would suit the white man better.

 BARNWELL Co., SOUTH CAROLINA.

In my section, thrift and industry will secure to immigrants certain support from the start, and in the course of time affluence and comfort. My experience is, that white labor can cultivate cotton and provisions more economically than black labor has ever done. I work both kinds of labor and would prefer all white if I could procure the right kind of men, and would be pleased to have them settle in my neighborhood.

 WEST MISSISSIPPI.

The difficulty in working white labor, is not in the cultivation of the crop, but in gathering it. Cotton grows about five to six feet high, on our best lands, and in August and September, and part of October, it is full of foliage, and the limbs meeting between the rows, a man who goes in the field before nine o'clock, is as wet with dew in ten minutes as if he had been dipped in a river. The hot sun then dries him off, and sickness is the result. This can be easily obviated — an unacclimated man ought not to cultivate more than three acres or one-third of a crop, and should not gather it till first of November. The loss of cotton by rains would not be ten per cent, and the one-third of a crop could be gathered from a field all open

in about one month, and without risk to health. The cotton crop that was raised along the Mississippi river in 1862 was abandoned in part in the fall and winter, owing to the approach of the army of General Grant. Contractors and others gathered thousands of bales in March and April, 1863, which had stood through the winter in the field. When wheat is ready for the sickle, it must be cut and put away or it is lost ; so of most other crops, but cotton will wait longer after maturing for the gatherer than any other crop—and with less loss in quantity or quality. These are important facts for the immigrant.

A man and his wife can cultivate with ease, six acres of cotton, ten of corn, and an abundance of vegetables, and can raise five times as much pork, poultry, cattle, etc., as they can consume—without interfering with the cotton crop, and can save his bale to the acre, making six bales, or, as we hope, six hundred dollars, besides having more than a support from other crops.

The writer, who was a planter of twenty-five years' experience, believes that by deep and thorough cultivation, judicious manuring, or rotation of crops, the yield per acre can be greatly increased. He has raised on sixteen acres of land, highly manured and cultivated deep, thirty-six bales of cotton, averaging four hundred pounds in weight, and he is satisfied that agricultural implements used in cotton culture will be greatly improved. One of the needs is something that will supersede the use of the hoe, and any improved method of picking or gathering the crop will be of very great importance.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Our great want is good labor. The negro, if he could be induced to work, is our best laborer on the rice and *swamp* lands, but I think the impression is almost universal that he never will be efficient again. Our climate, except in certain localities, is a very healthy one, and the white man *can, and does* labor in the field. In my immediate neighborhood, we have had several Northern families living for many years, and their health was as good as the natives enjoy.

Stock of all kinds do well. We have fat sheep on the native pastures all the year with no food but that they find in our fields—and *require* no shelter ; though, of course, they would be better for it. Sheep and cattle, hogs and horses, are easily raised. We

had all the improved breeds, but at present we can keep no stock because the negroes steal them. We have negro magistrates, and negro jurymen, and we cannot convict the thieves.

MISSISSIPPI.

My opinions are formed without any prejudice to the country or its inhabitants ; but unless great moral changes are made, and the strong hand of the government made felt, emigration will, and can never be induced here ; on that point I speak from experience, as I am an emigrant, and understand the feelings and wants of an emigrant. The great capacity of the South for the production of cotton has never been fully developed, and never will, until a new system of work is adopted. In my opinion, a division of those large plantations into small farms, to be sold or rented out to white emigrants, who would be working independently, would produce a larger crop than in 1860, and secure peace and prosperity to the country. What we have to contend now, is against the establishment of a land aristocracy, the substitute of slaveholders' aristocracy, and that is one of the main reasons why they do not encourage emigration unless such as they will control ; they favor a system of peonage. A certain man has been making speeches here for the last twelve months, favoring a scheme of that kind ; he has been lionized by the extreme radical rebels of the country, while an emigrant, who would come among them, would require ten acres of land to make a start, could not obtain, except under the most sacrificing terms. This country would produce most anything, and in greater quantity than you can raise it North, provided you can have intelligent laborers, which you cannot expect to find among blacks ; the farms generally are not kept up, fences are not kept up ; everything looks as if it was only temporary. Freedmen, when working for a share of the crop, have the full benefit of capital without possessing any, and will not even work to repair the fences, or keep the farm generally, unless they have extra pay ; every expense is thrown upon the planter, which is bound to bring him in debt every year, if he dealt with his hands according to his promises. For instance, this year laborers being very scarce and difficult to obtain, the land owners are offering to furnish land, tools, teams and food for teams, and if a team dies, it is the loss of the planter only ; and give the freedmen one half

of all he raised of cotton and corn, garden vegetables, potatoes, etc., excepted. Were the freedmen intelligent laborers, they could own the bulk of the land, at the present system of working, within three years at the outside. I came here in good faith, for the purpose of engaging in improved agriculture, and induce immigration around me. The first year I was in the country, I induced six foreigners, original farmers, who altogether represented a capital of over \$10,000. They stayed with me some time, and looked around, and left in disgust, owing to the feeling expressed by the citizens against Northern settlers, or foreign emigrants, who would not agree with their views politically, religiously, and every other way. I have become so thoroughly disgusted with the people (not the country, for it is a good productive country), that I would willingly sell out, could I get my money back. I have one of the best little places, of good land, every foot of it, with a railroad running through — Mississippi and Tennessee — one mile from the station and county seat or post-office. My land, with proper cultivation and drainage, would average three-fourths bale per acre — a great deal would go one full bale; every foot of it is tillable; lies well, has a fine residence, and comfort surrounding it to make it pleasant. Under other circumstances, it would be a fortune; under the present state of affairs it is a burden; it barely makes a living for myself and family. If emigration could be induced among us to such an extent as to counteract the evil influence, I would never think of moving. I am willing and ready to lend my influence and assistance to any move in that direction.

NEW ORLEANS.

The question of health is important, and one upon which grave misapprehension exist. The Sea Islands and most of the low country in South Carolina and Georgia, are subjected, from about the first of June until frost, to miasmatic influences which produce intermittent fever if inhaled while sleeping. From personal observation and experience, I should pronounce this fever identical with that which prevails so extensively in Illinois and many other parts of the West. It is rarely fatal if treated on the spot where contracted, although sometimes extremely obstinate and debilitating. By having pineland settlement, sometimes only a few rods distant from the home of the disease, its attacks are generally avoided. Immigration to

these sections, however, is not recommended. The cultivation of Sea Island cottons and of rice requires considerable experience and skilled labor. The African can live there with impunity, and thither he will eventually be driven, for his natural indolence points clearly to his failure when brought into competition with white labor.

White labor is being slowly introduced in some cotton growing sections, and succeeds admirably. Under all the disadvantages of a first season with men who can speak no English, actual experience shows a difference of fifty per cent in results between the whites and the blacks in favor of the former. Colonies of Germans have settled in various parts of the South and are doing well. It is imperatively necessary that immigrants should go in colonies, to protect themselves from the predatory inclinations of the blacks : otherwise they will raise neither stock nor poultry.

The whole of Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee, three-fourths of Georgia, Texas and Arkansas, and one-half at least of South Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana, offer suitable and healthy homes for the white man the whole year round. A bale of cotton to the acre is a safe estimate for our rich bottom-lands ; and a New England farmer would make light of attending to ten acres of the staple, besides making all the provisions needed for his family and farm. Lands are abundant and cheap, but are now daily enhancing in value. Improved plantations, which one year ago could have been bought for a mere song, are now readily selling at ten dollars to fifteen dollars per acre ; but even this figure, in many instances, does not represent the value of the improvements. Unimproved property is still selling at low figures, say from fifty cents to five dollars per acre, according to location and quality.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Our land in this section needs fertilizers to warm up our soil so that our cotton will start off early in the spring. If we had the capital to buy guano, to give our entire crop a light coat, we could make an average crop of twelve hundred pounds per acre. We have lowlands that will make a good yield, — corn, say fifty bushels per acre ; and we can raise fine crops of sweet potatoes, which are very valuable. My farm is small in this State. I have another farm in North Carolina,

which is as good for cotton as the farm on which I live. As I live near the line, there is a good opening here for manufactures, if we had the capital ; but the cotton farm is the best investment at present. Labor is becoming scarce : one reason of this is, the female labor among the blacks has failed since they have been freed, which in former days furnished about one-third of our labor on the cotton farms. Our best cotton-pickers were the women ; so this accounts, in a great measure, for the short crops since the war. Capital and good, honest laborers are what we need. We have good water in this part of the State, and a healthy climate. The white man can labor here as well as the black. The season is long enough to make the crop mature, but we have not the parching sun they have farther South ; so the white men can come here in safety as laborers, if they will emigrate here in the month of December or January : there is no danger of impairing health.

We have good society, churches of almost every denomination, and market for our cotton not more than twenty miles ; railroad about eight miles, with depots or turnouts same distance. But we are too poor at present to do much without help from abroad. We have improved greatly in the past year : time will do a great deal for us. Send us your emigrants, and they will meet with a kind reception.

CRAVEN CO., NORTH CAROLINA.

We are getting a good many Swiss emigrants ; a lot of fifty landed in your city about ten days past, who arrived here last week. Our Society for the Promotion of Immigration has an agent in Switzerland, and a large number will be brought over this year. The great drawback here is the want of money. One-third crop more could be made if our farmers had the money to purchase supplies.

DALLAS CO., ALABAMA.

This brings me to the question, Can white labor be made available in the production of cotton ? I answer *yes*, in all temperate climates like this of ours. We see illustrations of this fact every day here. The writer of this, when a boy fourteen years of age, made seven

bales of cotton per year, besides corn and meat sufficient to support him five years.

JEFFERSON CO., MISSISSIPPI.

So far there has been no emigration hitherward, because of our not being admitted into the Union. The impression has gone abroad that no white man can work in our climate in the summer. But in the poorer, piney woods districts, white men and women are the only laborers, having always been too poor to own slaves, and since the war being compelled to work in the field. They make twenty-five per cent more crop than the negroes do. There is no doubt but that men from Germany, France, Scotland and Ireland can do well in the uplands, raising cotton. If they emigrate here, and settle up the States of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, the negroes will go to the swamp lands of Louisiana and Arkansas, where *their* labor pays much better than in the uplands, on account of the wonderful fertility of the soil.

LOUISIANA, MARCH.

One gang of Coolies is being worked in Louisiana. I am sure the first waves of the great flood which it is evident is destined to come to the cotton-growing States in the way of emigration of Chinese, will be felt over the Pacific Railway, but I can foresee objections to that route which will form insuperable obstacles to its general adoption. In the first place, the expense of transmission is about two hundred per cent greater than needful ; and, in the second, the wages paid in California are so high, it will be long ere they will be reduced sufficiently to prevent detention of emigrants there. The present wages of laborers in San Francisco is, I understand, one dollar per day, specie. Three years since, the captain of one of the James Baines line of packets, loading here, informed me that he had brought three hundred and ninety Chinese to Balize, Honduras, each emigrant having been brought before the British Consul and a Chinese Mandarin, the agreement read over to him, and his mark affixed before shipping, to guard against kidnapping. The ship was obliged to conform to the British passenger act, and give each emigrant the prescribed number of cubic feet, making the rate of passage of course most expensive ; and yet the whole cost of each individual was

thirty dollars to the passenger broker, and seventy dollars passage money. The wages contracted for were eight dollars (specie) per month for five years, laborers to feed themselves, and repay the seventy dollars passage money in monthly instalments. Five of the lot of three hundred and ninety died on the passage of three months ; three hundred and eighty-five were landed in good health. Under such a system we might in five years double any crop of cotton ever yet made, and benefit the wretches themselves besides. Without some such prudent step, the cotton prospect is gloomy enough ; the negro race fading away, and a few entirely disbelieve in any large amount of European emigration South.

LOUISIANA, APRIL.

Dr. K—— has unfortunately died, and the experiment of Coolie labor on his plan been consequently abandoned ; but I gather generally from his neighbors that the trial was not a success, the people being picked up indiscriminately in the streets of Havana.

There will be no safety in the trade until we grow sufficient cotton to prevent any ring from controlling the stock. To do this we must have emigration on a large scale, and China is the country whence it must come. Those who are instrumental in introducing this labor will confer a benefit on the country at large, on the emigrants, and on the negroes even, by compelling the latter to adopt industrious habits. I am inclined to think that the complaint, on the subject of the race of young negroes making worse laborers than those trained under a stricter discipline, has some foundation.

TEXAS.

The Germans of New Braunfels are prosperous, more so than our Americans of the South ; they (the Germans) are little addicted to the raising of cotton. The cereals, corn, fruits, esculent roots, fruits, the vine, artisan and mechanical industry, they devote themselves to with steadiness, perseverance and success. They perform all their labors with more fidelity than the Americans, — make better boots, better wagons, better iron-work, better everything. They are more sober, more economical and much more quiet and inoffensive than our South Americans. They have one principal factory, — cotton and woollen, — run by water-power, which turns out

an excellent article of "domestic" or cotton cloth, besides some other kinds of cloth for clothing, and a blanket much superior to the Northern trade blanket. These Germans have also good wagon-shops, good boot-makers, good saddlers, etc.; and, on account of the cheapness and superiority of their wares, the place has, for twelve years past, been by far the best market for articles in their line in Western Texas. They also have a fine soil and plough it deep; and they always have corn, butter, peaches, grapes, etc., etc., when the Americans have none. Indeed, in "dry season," they form a kind of granary or "Egypt" for a large extent of country, although their settlement is small. The emigration to their colony at present is small. A large emigration is anticipated; and my own opinion is, that, in a quarter of a century, Western Texas will be as German as Pennsylvania. The principal—that is, the greatest in number—emigration to Western Texas now is from the older Southern States; and, while there are among them many "noble souls," I do not think it of a character to build up the material prosperity of the country. But the great—and indeed, in my opinion, the only—draw-back to the rapid advancement of our country in material prosperity and wealth is the lawless and chaotic condition of society; nor do I see any likelihood of its coming to an end.

GEORGIA.

The impression prevails at a distance that this climate is inimical to white labor. I think it a great mistake. The poor white man who does field-labor here is as fine a specimen of health as can be found almost in any portion of the world. Negro labor has been the rule because it was cheaper; the slave was furnished more economically than the free white man could or would be, and white labor was discouraged in consequence of it: but experience has demonstrated beyond a doubt the adaptability of our climate to white labor, and now it is meeting every encouragement, because labor is scarce and we want a predominant white voting population. My opinion is, that there is no soil, climate or production in the world that promises longer life and better compensation to the outdoor laborer than is at this time offered in the South.

We think the above are conclusive that white men can

both make and gather a crop, even in the extreme portions of the South.

The whites make but a fraction of the labor now in the South, but the accounts are most encouraging of their success as tenants or small farmers. As a rule they object to working as "hands" in the same fields with the negroes, but there are instances of successful culture with the combined labor, and later, when more of this natural prejudice has died away, it will doubtless become more general.

For almost all crops a larger supply of labor is needed in the gathering than in the preparation.* The great hay crops of the Northern States could hardly be saved each year unless the strictly agricultural labor of the country received large reinforcements in the gathering season from the factories, whose operatives, whilst taking their vacation in the hot weather from the routine of mill work, turn an honest penny "hay-making." And in the future we may perhaps expect to see the picking of cotton helped out by similar accessions to the labor force of the fields from factories, which time, we trust, will establish through the South.

CHINESE LABOR.

With regard to Chinese labor, time and actual trial alone can prove whether it be practicable and economical. The dangers of the coolie system are its turning into a system of permanent peonage or slavery—systems which the old world is discarding, not entirely from motives of right, but also from conviction that they are the worst economy, adverse to both the social and material progress of the communities in which they exist. If men are

* See Appendix H.

to be treated as mere tools, perhaps slavery, through the selfish interest of the *owner*, secured the better care for that health and comfort which went so far to make good the working trim of his slaves ; but the voice of the people has been decisive on this subject in the late war, and no system, we believe, can ever be permanently inaugurated in this nation except under laws securing to all laborers the privileges of freedom. If ever coolies are introduced we may be sure there will be the strictest legislation relative to contracts, — legislation resembling perhaps the English, but in no respect permitting the abuses existing under the Spanish or French laws.

As citizens we may, however, question the expediency of flooding the country with a population, which, — if we may judge, we trust without harshness, from what we have read and have gathered from conversation with those who have had actual experience with this class of labor, — though it would contribute vastly to the labor force, might bring with it many demoralizing vices that could only be a tax upon the moral force of the country.

But, in treating the cotton question purely as one of economic science, and not in its connection with morals, it must be admitted that so far as their qualifications as laborers are concerned, there is probably no race so well fitted to meet all the requirements of cotton cultivation as the Chinese.

Cotton requires persistent industry, nimble and dexterous fingers in the picking season, and the crop is made more by saving than by hard labor ; all these needs are exactly met by the Chinaman. At the same time he will live in the most satisfactory manner upon rice and other vegetable food, all of which he can raise while cultivating the cotton crop, and he will thrive in the climate of the

river bottoms, which, whatever may be claimed for the uplands, cannot be said to be conducive to great vigor on the part of white laborers.

Such being the facts, when we consider that the fertile cotton fields of Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas have never yet been cultivated in cotton to the extent of two acres in each hundred ; that these fields have been brought by the Pacific railroad within sixty to eighty days distance of an unlimited supply of labor, and that this distance can be bridged at small expense, it would seem strange indeed if supply and demand did not respond to each other.

It may be added that the Chinese laborers who have built the Central Pacific Railroad, were procured under contract, which did not come within the prohibitions of our coolie law, but they came over under a system of advances well secured by those who promoted their immigration, but which left the laborers to all intents and purposes free.

CAPACITIES OF THE SOUTH, AND INDUCEMENTS TO IMMIGRATION.

Of the two immigrations which are likely to set towards our shores, the European and Chinese, the former would probably seek the more northern latitudes of the cotton growing regions, whose healthier uplands promise, by the use of manure and the careful garden culture possible only on small farms, to become the homes of a population of thrifty farmers — whilst the rich alluvial bottom lands are left to be cultivated in larger tracts, by organized capital, with black and Chinese labor, better fitted to withstand the malarial influences, and the hotter sun of those parts.

To encourage immigration State Commissioners have

been appointed, and associations formed in most, if not all, the States, with agents in Europe and our great immigrant port, New York, to induce settlers to the districts they represent — by the offer of transportation at reduced rates, and lands cheap or gratis to actual settlers, and to point out the advantages of their particular counties. The immigration so earnestly called for has as yet scarcely begun to turn its course southwards, as can be seen by the statistics of immigration (full tables of which are given in appendix C), but we cannot doubt that when the relative advantages of the various quarters of our country are better known, and better government and respect for law shall establish in the South better protection to life and property, she will receive a fairer share of the labor supply constantly flowing westwards.

At the present the return for good agricultural labor is higher than the North can offer. Not only can the employer afford to pay more from the high price of his crop above the cost of production, but the poor quality of the labor available, — and poor labor is never cheap labor, — forces him to seek better work at better prices.

The varied soils and climates of the South produce all the crops known to the temperate and tropical zones — without a rival (see Appendix A, on India cotton) in the growth of cotton,* her fertility is inexhaustible for corn, wheat, hemp, oats, tobacco and all small grains, for peaches, grapes and other fruits and vegetables; whilst in certain sections tea, rice and sugar, the coffee plant, oranges and other tropic fruits, grow luxuriantly; the great prairies of Texas and the uplands of Tennessee,

* The proportion of land actually cultivated in cotton in 1860, is to the quantity actually available as *one square* is to the whole checker board.—Chart of "Cotton Kingdom," by Edward Atkinson. 1863.

upper Georgia and Alabama, furnish pasture for all kinds of stock, the mildness of the climate requiring but little stabling in winter ; — no country could be richer in agricultural possibilities.

For commerce she has great and commodious harbors, connected by railways with all portions of the interior ; whilst stretching like another ocean between the Atlantic and Pacific, the Mississippi, a bond of union we cannot break, flows from North to South, a highway for the fleets of a world. The streams, great and little, which divide her surface, at once irrigate the land, and with the railways furnish innumerable channels for inland commerce, and supply great water powers, enough to run all the factories of the earth.†

Parallel to the Atlantic coast great ranges of mountains diversify the climate, scenery and productions ; in her soil sleep vast mines of coal and iron, of manganese and other minerals, including some deposits of the precious metals ; great forests in Florida and the Carolinas supply live oak, hard pine, pitch and turpentine as from great lumber quarries ; almost everything required for domestic consumption or foreign export can be here found or produced, cheaply and abundantly.

The following extracts give a picture of the present condition of the South, the cheapness and fertility of the land and its capacity for all sorts of crops, and show some of the inducements she offers to immigrants.

† Appendix B.

HINDS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

The South possesses all the elements of national wealth, namely : a highly productive soil, yielding in profuse abundance all the most valuable productions of earth ; rivers carrying out products to the markets of the world, with a genial climate—and our only want is an increase of population, and, thank God, the indications are that emigration will flow soon to our land. The capability of the South for cotton culture can scarcely be estimated—it extends from latitude North 35° to the Gulf, and from longitude 1° to 30° West of Washington, making an area of 600,000 square miles, with the finest cotton climate in the world. The amount of land capable of raising cotton profitably in this vast territory is enormous—I scarcely dare estimate it. The Mississippi Delta, including the lower portion of the Arkansas and Red rivers, and the Yazoo Valley, from Memphis to the Balize, contains not less than 20,000,000 of acres—on four-fifths of which cotton may be raised equal in quantity and of a staple finer, longer and more silky than any other given area on the globe's surface. Let the government by a substantial levee redeem this magnificent country from overflow, and it will raise cotton for the world. Nearly every acre of land in this valley may be made productive, and cultivated to great advantage by good, substantial levees—and I have no hesitancy in saying would produce from 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 bales of cotton.

When we leave this Delta or swamp country and ascend to the hill country, we find in the South no mountains—the whole country is hill and dale and table land, intersected by hundreds of rivers running South into the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. All these rivers, and the small streams which form them, are skirted with fine alluvial land, well adapted to cotton, corn, potatoes, and all kinds of vegetables and fruits—with a mild and healthy climate. In fact, the sun in its revolution around the globe, shines on no such a country. Our territory, if as densely settled as Massachusetts, would contain 60,000,000 of people ; it now has less than 5,000,000. In all parts of it we find large districts of rich and fertile land covered with forests,

I must be brief on the labor question. It is the great question with

us, and upon which turns all our hopes for this generation. Since the war, labor has been cheap, but it has been indeed trifling. The negro was unsuited, as probably any race would have been, for the sudden change — and our political condition, too, has tended much to demoralize him; but even were the labor good, we have not enough by one half for the pressing wants of the present.

The vast agricultural capabilities of the country, could under judicious management, employ four times the present amount of labor — but we must in time, and that soon, turn our attention to manufacturing. We have the finest water power in the world, scattered all over these States; timber in abundance, with great mineral wealth in sections, with a healthy climate; and all we need is an increase of population to develop these resources, to make us a rich, prosperous and happy people. Again, the great public questions which are now presenting themselves to the minds of men, among which stand most prominent the shipment by way of the Mississippi river, Western produce, etc., to Europe and the tropical climates of our own continent; and, again, direct trade with Europe, and these countries must of themselves create a new era in the history of the South. The Mississippi river is to be not only in name, but indeed a great inland sea, upon which will float a commerce such as the world never in its wildest fancies dreamed of — upon its banks will rise great cities, far surpassing anything of the Old World. St. Louis, Cairo, Memphis, Vicksburg and New Orleans, are but in their infancy; like the bird in the egg they are but in the embryo state. Give us industrious and enterprising emigrants, and all this will be realized. Indeed, our future is too bright and dazzling to contemplate. We will do our duty — we will give them a cordial reception.

MIDDLE GEORGIA.

Cotton culture, at the ruling prices at this time, ought to pay the producer a handsome profit; but the ruined condition of the country, the high rate of interest paid for the use of money, the revolution in the labor system, the constant political excitement, and the uncertainty in reference to the future of the country, produce a condition of things very unfavorable to success.

There are a few farmers making money now more rapidly than they ever did in the olden time. These are young men — energetic, and possessing some tact for management — who suffered less from

the general ruin. There are planters in this county who make six or seven bales of cotton to the hand, and produce their own corn and bacon, while many are poorer now than they were in 1865 ; so that it is very difficult to get at an average.

The soils in this section, though naturally poor, are susceptible of very high improvement. Since the war some acres have been made to yield over one thousand pounds cotton *lint*. This section is remarkably exempt from the disasters incident to richer soils.

WESTERN ALABAMA.

I own a plantation in Alabama. It contains about one thousand acres. I cultivated it myself until 1866. In 1866 I worked it jointly with my former manager, paying the laborers money wages. Since then I have rented it to him, and have had no hand in its control and management. I cannot give you answers to the various questions you ask.

Though I cannot answer the specific questions you ask, yet as you desire such general information as I may be able to give, I will make some statements as to what was done under the old regime upon my place.

YEARS.	Gross income.	Yearly expenses.	Net income.	No of lbs. of cotton (ginned).
1845.	\$7,975 59	\$3,267 59	\$4,708 00	92,674
1846.	6,525 83	3,497 77	3,028 06	64,518
1847.	4,440 09	3,791 93	648 16	64,584
1848.	4,747 46	3,084 81	1,662 65	66,006
1849.	5,284 77	2,849 79	2,434 98	49,058
1850.	5,498 97	2,725 17	2,773 80	42,300
1851.	5,632 94	2,845 43	2,787 51	70,844
1852.	8,707 49	3,946 04	4,761 45	92,912
1853.	6,730 56	4,511 58	2,218 98	71,620
1854.	9,214 14	4,345 19	4,868 95	81,074
1855.	11,596 23	4,397 66	7,198 57	127,938
1856.	11,766 43	3,973 14	7,793 29	84,396
1857.	14,299 22	5,595 41	8,703 81	142,664
1858.	15,597 79	4,680 12	10,917 67	135,850
1859.	13,319 43	4,730 09	8,589 34	125,210
1860.	7,156 86	4,305 35	2,851 51	66,534
Total	\$138,493 80	\$62,547 07	\$75,946 73	1,378,182
Average	\$8,655 86	\$3,909 19	\$4,746 67	86,136

I should remark that the plantation is in what is known *geologically* as the "Cretaceous Formation." About half the plantation is of "*Prairie*" soil or lime land, (which, however, is mainly *clayey*, with intermixture of lime and sand—in wet weather and winter a sticky mud)—the remainder of it is "creek bottom," with sandy loam.

I had worked the plantation from 1840, but until 1845 was adding

land, hands and stock, and it was not until 1845 that it assumed its full proportions, after which time it remained materially unchanged.

You will observe that the annual expense was tolerably uniform, not widely fluctuating. In 1853, about \$950 was *paid out* for permanent improvements in buildings. During some years, no deaths occurring among mules, new purchases of mules were unnecessary: in other years I bought from one to three, and one year six. The item of expense embraces the cost of the cotton to market and commissions and other expenses attending its sale. These were uniform, except the item of freight, which varied *widely*. The cotton went by steamboat to Mobile. These are the causes of the annual variations. The *average* will be right. You will observe how widely, with the same land and the same labor, the production of cotton varied; you will observe, further, how widely the gross income, the gross proceeds of the cotton and the net profits of the plantation varied from year to year, apparently without reference to the *quantity* of cotton raised. In 1850, 42,300 lbs. produced as much as I received in 1851 from 70,844 lbs. The price of cotton varied largely, and sometimes was not sold at the best prices. I give you the result as it came to me. From 1854 it was better managed than during the prior years, I having then employed a man who was a *peculiarly good* farmer, (extra) and who has remained with me since, and is now upon the place; yet even under his care, you will see how the production varied. The only proper mode of ascertaining what can be done in cotton, is to take a series of years and find the average.

The lands were purchased from 1840 to 1846, and cost \$16,323.00. They had appreciated in value, and in 1860 were worth probably, in cash, \$35,000.

The hands properly belonging to the plantation, had cost in 1838 to 1844, \$27,204. They were in families, and with deaths and natural increase and the rise in the value of such property, had become worth in 1860, about \$72,900.00. They being in families, and comfortably housed, etc., they increased rapidly in number though not in efficiency. The working hands, (*full hands*, as we call them, made up by estimating two or more weak hands at their effective value as workers,) were never more than 37 or 38, — ranging from 34 to 38.

The former average (till 1860,) production of cotton throughout Greene and the neighboring counties of Alabama, was about five bales to the hand, — the effective hand; the average production one

bale to two acres, the bales to average 500 lbs. The average area in cotton to the effective hand, 10 acres.

In 1858, I estimated the profit of the plantation for that year, to be about $23\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the *original cost*—about 11 4-10 per cent on the then market value—without reference to the natural increase of the slaves and without reference to the increased value by appreciation of price.

The year 1866, the first year of the new regime was a most disastrous one to the planters. In 1867 I made out a table showing the result for 1866 on seventeen plantations belonging to our best and most experienced planters, of the neighborhood of Greensborough all in the famous "Cane Brake" region, the cretaceous formation first mentioned, famous for its fertility and production of cotton. The whole number of hands worked was 807. The total product as realized and sold or used, including cotton, corn, and pork, was \$183,985.89; the cost of production, including their reasonable rent for land, wages of laborers paid in cash, stock of provisions (corn, meat, etc.,) consumed, wages of overseer where one was employed, use of mules and loss by death of mules, and taxes, was \$304,118.72; showing a loss of \$120,132.83 or an average loss per hand of \$148.86. It was the worst crop year I have ever known,—no one made more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{3}{4}$ bales to the hand, and many not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ bale per hand. The losses of the year absorbed all the ready money of the country—actually crippled and disabled many—rendered the payment of wages the next year an impossibility; in consequence the negroes in 1867 worked for shares of the crops. The system was found to work better than the wages system and has generally been adopted since. It took the planters all of 1867 to get back into a condition to work at all to advantage. In 1868, being reinstated, in a measure, they have done better and the country is just beginning to get back to its old state of prosperity. The great drawback now is the want of labor. The negroes by death and other causes are diminishing in number—the *women* and children have ceased to work—none do as many hours of work per day as formerly—and wherever a hand has realized enough to buy a homestead of 10 or 20 acres he builds a cabin, raises a little corn and potatoes (sweet potatoes) and a pig or two, gets his fuel from the woods or the adjoining fences, needs little clothing, hunts and fishes and lounges and sleeps: having few wants, he does nothing, and refuses to go into the cotton field. The want of

labor is the great drawback there, and I do not see how the evil is to be remedied.

From the thieving propensities of the negroes, occasioned by their disinclination for work and the promptings of hunger it has become impossible to raise hogs or cows or sheep—our meat has all to be bought abroad. We formerly raised our meat or most of it. We now only raise cotton, and corn for mules and work hands.

CUTHBERT, GEORGIA.

It certainly requires an effort to turn the great tide of emigration which has been hurried on by wealth and power, and which now flows westward almost naturally. But the thing is entirely accomplished so soon as your own people contrast impartially the advantages of the West with those of the South; and by advantages, I mean the capacity to make money and enjoy health. These are the great considerations.

I am not one of those who believe cotton to be king, but it is stronger than ever before, and even at its original price. I am thoroughly convinced that it occupies a position second to no commodity that is now grown. Laborers and a well organized system of labor is all that we actually need.

But the contrast:—The South is the acknowledged cotton country, and yet experience has shown that a common laborer can produce as much money here from corn, wheat, etc., as he can in the Northwest. It brings better prices, his land will not cost one fourth the money, and he can cultivate double the quantity. In the Northwest their productions are limited; here we grow almost anything, and have the pleasure of making it most profitable to grow all that they do, and cotton, sugar-cane, etc., upon the same farm besides. Heretofore we labored to buy negroes to make more money to buy more negroes. Now, this is all played out, and we are rapidly learning economy, which I consider the safest foundation to fortune, and which consists in making home provide for itself and in hiring according to one's means. Necessity has forced this upon us, and its benefits are wonderful. I know young men who came out of the war penniless, and without assistance have made and are now worth thousands of dollars. I know freedmen who have done the same thing and now own two hundred acres of land well stocked with mules and cattle, all paid for. To tell you what some farmers who

were out of debt, and had farms and stock have made, would seem incredible ; but many, very many, have doubled their estates. All this has been from farming alone, and, perhaps there never were four years with so many disadvantages ; labor unreliable — prices fluctuating — and the whole country worse than in a state of war.

These examples show conclusively what may be done when the country is out of debt, when labor can be had and made secure. As to the health of the South, every one who lives here is satisfied, and it is only necessary to build a few more railroads so that close communication between the two sections can be had to settle this matter.

TENNESSEE.

Rutherford County is geographically the centre of the State, surrounded at a distance of ten to fifteen miles, by a wreath of hills, the divide between the water shed of Stones River and other neighboring streams. The lands of this valley, in which Stones River, — celebrated for the battle field of that name, — takes its rise, are high, and undulating, of a reddish chocolate or mulatto color, admirably adapted to the production of cotton, corn, wheat, oats, etc. The grasses grow finely, "*blue grass*," so celebrated in Kentucky, being indigenous. Red clover, timothy and all other varieties adapted to this latitude, do well under cultivation.

Our crop of cotton for 1867, as reported to the Assessor of Internal Revenue, for the Government, amounted to about 20,000 bales, and from the location of a portion of the county near Nashville, we estimate that about 2,000 bales were shipped and paid duty there. The crop for 1868, is supposed to be about 16,000 bales (450 lbs. to the bale).

We ship and sell to Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, a surplus of corn, wheat, pork and mules, raised in and adjoining our county. The cotton is raised principally (say four-fifths) by black labor, and a less proportion of the grain, pork, etc.

ORANGEBURG Co., S. C.

Our country, with its fair fields, unrivalled climate and unsurpassed general advantages, spreads itself out invitingly to the Northern man, as well as to him of foreign or native birth, who comes to cast his labor, his influence or means, for the development of her internal resources

and the building up of her waste places. No one coming in our midst with such purposes in view, need fear of meeting a cordial reception and that respect which legitimate industry and enterprise demands.

This section has some advantages over other sections of the South; from the geography of the country you will see that the middle and lower portions are generally level and flat; consequently the water power is not so available, from the fact that there is so little fall. This county is more undulating, with sufficient, never failing streams, and here the capitalist may erect his factory, his lumber mill, and machinery for other purposes; besides, we have the very best cotton lands, plenty of yellow pine, with railroads and streams for rafting timber and lumber. Notwithstanding the price of land is advancing, yet farms in any size, from 100 to 5,000 acres can be bought at from \$2.00 to \$8.00 per acre, the latter improved with fine buildings, circular-saw, grist and flour mills.

AIKEN, S. C.

You have, no doubt, often heard of Aiken, in South Carolina; of its situation on an extensive plateau, some 700 feet above the sea, and 300 feet above the Savannah river, which runs within twenty miles of it — of the great salubrity of its atmosphere and its particular adaptation to the cure of pulmonary diseases. All this is too well known to Northern people for me to dwell upon it. The place is now filled with Northerners in search of health. Previous to the war, this was also the case — our summers are equally beneficial. Our nights are almost all cool and refreshing. The heat in the shade seldom reaches 95° — sun-strokes are totally unknown.

The plateau is subdivided into farms, varying from fifty acres to 1,000 or 2,000 — the smaller being, before the war, cultivated by the white farmers who owned no slaves — the larger farms were usually cultivated by slaves, now by freedmen, whose wages vary, for the men, from 8 to 12 dollars, with rations added; for boys, from \$3 to \$6, according to capacity. Women seldom now work in the fields; they all ambition "keeping house." Besides the rations the men are always furnished with a house, a garden, privilege of wood and of raising poultry, etc.

Wages are now more generally paid, than a share of the crop; it works more to the satisfaction of both parties. It seems to be universally conceded that negroes on an average do about one fourth

less work for the employers than in slavery time. They lose many days, they go to work late, remain longer at meals, and refuse to work on Saturdays after 12. Taking this into consideration and adding the withdrawal of women from the field, and of very many of the young negroes, boys or girls, who are seldom compelled by their parents to work, and the diminution of their number by death, and their great propensity for towns and cities, we can safely say that since the termination of the war, the labor devoted to agriculture at the South has diminished by one half. In this neighborhood, and in several others which have come under my immediate observation, I can affirm that our negro labor has diminished by two thirds, and we spare no efforts to replace it by immigration.

Lands are worth from \$3 to \$15, according to value and improvements. They can be rented at \$1 per acre, or one fourth product, privilege of dwelling and fire-wood always included. The production of our lands are varied; corn, cotton, peas, wheat, rye, oats, barley, sorghum, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, watermelons, cantaloupes, — vegetables of all kinds raised North or South, — strawberries, peaches, apples, pears, plums, apricots, grapes, etc. The climate suits all — land of course suits some better than others. Cotton, with assistance of fertilizers, from 200 to 500 lbs. clean cotton per acre; corn from 10 to 40 bushels, in many places 60 to 80 bushels; sweet and Irish potatoes from 150 to 400 bushels per acre, the last figure not often. Wheat 8, 10, to 20 bushels. Watermelons, weighing from 10 to 60 lbs., from 1,000 to 1,500 per acre, (average price in Charleston last year 18 cents); peaches very fine and very profitable: best shipped to New York, Philadelphia, Charleston — balance canned or distilled. Apples fine and sweet, very salable; grapes fine, manufactured into excellent wine — some vineyards 30, 50, 120, acres; wild fruits are grapes, plums, blackberries, huckleberries, persimmons, crab, haw, etc., most of them convertible into jellies or jams. Strawberries bear enormously, and find a ready market in cities and from \$1 to 20 cents per quart, seldom the latter price. Soil varies from stiff clay to light sandy, with all degrees of admixture — all susceptible of high improvement. Being all devoid of lime, the recent discoveries of phosphates in the Charleston basin are of vast importance to us; it is just what our lands most need.

Primitive growth of our forests, yellow and pitch pine, very valuable timber — second growth, oak; third growth, loblolly or old field.

III

pine. Water courses numerous, and many of them affording splendid water power, equal to any in the world, many of them already working grist mills, flour mills, cotton factories, paper mills, saw mills — and room for a thousand more. The neighborhood of Aiken possesses on the north extensive quarries of granite; on the west, and around the town, mountains of Kaolin, pure white for porcelain: yellow, for yellow ware, and some coarser for common pottery. On the south of Aiken are also quarries of the best quality of burr stones for flour mills, which have been tested and found equal to French burr — also fine, flinty sandstones for grinding paints, or building purposes. Excellent clays for fire bricks, or common bricks.

Our people being all more or less involved in debt since the war, very much of the land is in the market. Many Northerners and foreigners have already purchased and many others are looking out for suitable farms or houses. The advantages for health are such, that it is firmly believed Aiken will become a fashionable winter resort for the wealthy of northern cities, anxious to avoid the severe winter.

LEVY CO., FLORIDA.

Levy County, Florida, is well adapted to any kind of cotton — the fine Sea Island is the only kind planted. Sugar does well in hummock or pine lands. One gentleman who planted heavily before the war on unmanured hummock land tells how he *averaged* 2,900 pounds of sugar to the acre — besides molasses. Rice does well; in *uplands* makes about 40 to 50 bushels per acre. Tobacco does well; corn does well; garden vegetables do splendidly in our county. Our County Commissioners have taxed all property $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent for schools. We have egress by Railroads and Steamships to all Gulf Ports, and also all to Atlantic Ports. This county has few negroes in it. It made but about $\frac{1}{3}$ of a crop in 1868; 80 instead of 240 bales. It was worth 80 cents at home, bought up by merchants in the seed and by them ginned.

CRAWFORD CO., GA.

This is destined to be a white man's country; the negro will go West and to South Georgia, where the white man cannot labor regularly in the sun and have health. Here he can. The water

is pure. Fruits flourish here in perfection. The apple, peach, plum, pear, grape, etc., etc., all grow readily, and produce good crops. Wheat on good land makes twenty bushels per acre. In an adjoining county last year, a number of farmers competed for a prize, and tried as an experiment to see how much wheat could be made to the acre. Several of them made over forty bushels, and one forty-five. Corn, oats, rye, barley, etc., all grow well. Clover has not been tried to any extent, but several have, within the last year, sowed small lots and they report favorably. A new plant, a species of clover, called Lespedeza, has made its appearance within a few years past, and is rapidly spreading over the country. All animals are fond of it, and many regard it as a very valuable plant.

As to the price of land, as I stated to you in a former communication, it depends upon circumstances. A tract of 840 acres, four miles from Madison, sold at sheriff's sale, the first Tuesday in this month, at \$1,690, — this was a forced sale; at private sale land sells higher. There is also a belief that land will advance in a year or so, and land owners are not, therefore, anxious to sell. Moreover, those who are out of debt, do not know in what to invest, and this, too, to some extent, keeps them from forcing their land on the market. At private sale land will bring from five dollars to ten dollars per acre. Choice places twelve dollars, or perhaps fifteen dollars, though that would be an exception.

MIDDLE ALABAMA.

Through Middle Alabama, which is the principal cotton producing portion of the State, we are almost exclusively dependent upon the emancipated slaves for labor. Before their emancipation the rich belt of land extending through the middle of the State, from Georgia to Mississippi, was bought up and owned by the wealthy planters, and the white laborers not being willing to work with slaves, and little inducement being held out to them to do so, settle principally in the less productive pine lands south of this belt, and hill lands north of it; since the emancipation, no immigrant labor having come in, the freedmen are still the only dependence for labor.

GEORGIA AND MISSISSIPPI.

In some counties of Georgia, especially in Hancock County, David Dickson introduced the plan of using commercial manures.

Last year he expended \$13,000 in them with great profit. If you have not done so already, correspond with him. If his system will, *after a cotton crop*, render land rich enough to produce clover, which was too poor before, then has a new era dawned on the South; and her people can find some compensation for the loss of labor, in the increased production of the land; the uplands being made to produce double what they produced before.

The alluvial lands on the Mississippi River, will not need any fertilizers for an age to come. Their extent is almost incredible. Starting from the mouth of the Mississippi on a steamboat and going up, the first high land you see is at Helena, 700 miles above on the west bank; and the average width of the alluvion on that side is 40 miles. On the east bank, in ascending, there is not a great deal of bottom land, until you reach Vicksburg. Between that point and Memphis, there is enough land to make three millions of bales of cotton, provided it was cleared up, and the levees repaired. A bale per acre, is a very common product there,—as common as 200 pounds is here. Under the superintendence of Gen. John L. Alcorn, of Friars Point, Codhoma County, Mississippi, a levee was commenced, *against a bluff*, below Memphis, and constructed nearly the whole way to Vicksburg. It was broken during the war, and needs extensive repairs; but this section can be redeemed from inundation effectually, because *no stream enters the Mississippi River from that side, from Memphis to the mouth of the Yazoo River*, and the water which falls on the river bank, runs *back* in the “Coldwater” and “Yazoo” rivers, with a fall of three feet to the mile. When these levees are repaired, the tide of negro labor will set towards that section—the uplands will be left to white residents and emigrants who have the patient perseverance required for the gradual improvement of the soil. There is no one measure so important to cotton production as the repair of this levee,—and no stock would be safer, for a company would have the same guarantee, which Pharaoh had for his corn. This done, and emigration encouraged to the South, there would never be again a scarcity of cotton in Europe or America.

MISSISSIPPI.

In this State the land will produce ten millions of bales of cotton, and support in food and clothing a population of ten millions. Between the Yazoo River and the Mississippi, there are six millions

of acres of land, the richest land in the world, which will produce, with proper cultivation, two bales of cotton to each acre, and fifty bushels of corn on an average every year. Stock needs no wintering here, — and the garden supplies, the entire winter, the best vegetables. This is the home of the grape, the apple, pear and peach.

MISSISSIPPI.

Nothing has surprised me more than the neglect of Southern lands, and of cotton and corn culture, which has been exhibited by the capitalists of the North and West since the war. The sporadic, ill considered, and badly managed experiments of 1866 and 1867, resulting as they did in ruinous losses to all embarking in the cultivation of cotton in those years, discouraged further investments in our lands, and, with the disturbed political condition of the South, have effectually turned attention to less productive lands, and less remunerative agricultural labor.

The remarkable results of last year's planting operations throughout the South, whether we look at the aggregate or at individual instances, will, I trust, enable you to present this subject so forcibly in your proposed digest, as may induce important accessions to our labor and capital, and thus increase the wealth and prosperity of the whole country.

MISSISSIPPI.

Before the war, this county produced about forty thousand bales; last year about eight thousand, — the best crop since the war, and more I think than will be made for many years to come, without a great influx of whites from Europe or China. My impression is that Chinese would answer better to produce cotton, than European whites; cotton cannot be produced cheaply, except it be upon places where many laborers are worked together, and there is complete organization and division of labor — in its cultivation there are not those periods of idleness that occur in the cultivation of grain crops; — to lose a day at some periods, will almost lose the crop. In 1866 and 1867, here, we cultivated, generally upon the share system; after two years' trial it exploded with almost utter ruin to our people, — and in 1868 the crop was made as a general thing upon wages. The crop being a fair one for the times, and prices fair, the negroes have concluded again to try the share system, or

what to them is worse, rent land, mules, tools, and buy all their supplies, and really will not work ; this is the case all over this country. Suppose you in Massachusetts were to give your mills up to the operatives, to be run upon shares, how long do you think your manufacturing interests would last ? The labor of the country must either own the capital, land, mules, etc., etc., or it must be subordinated to capital and systematized, or it, with capital, will both go to the bad, or capital will have to withdraw from the country as rapidly as it can be realized. After the State is restored to the Union it may be that a system of laws and police regulations can be so framed as to make property safe here ; the negroes are so given to pilfering, that in the country it is almost impossible to live, — they steal all the pigs, milk your cows at night, plunder every garden and orchard ; clothing, household or kitchen furniture or ware cannot be exposed, — they have become universal pilferers, they even steal the corn out of troughs of the mules they work. While slaves, they were in a measure restrained by the certainty of punishment immediately following detection. If they ran off, they were brought back. Now upon being detected, they run off, and if caught and put in jail, punishment is a long way off, and fine and imprisonment have no terrors for them. Their constant small stealings of all the little comforts and luxuries of a country life, makes life on a plantation extremely irksome ; the negroes, withal, are becoming exceedingly religious, but will not listen to intelligent white preachers ; only to ignorant negroes like themselves. It would astonish you to hear how they go on at their meetings, and if I told you I might not be believed ; each one of them also wants several women ; few of the women now work at all.

The lands are good, and with the improvements in agricultural instruments and the use of fertilizers on the worn places, can be made to produce more than formerly. Although this county borders on the Mississippi River, it is almost entirely upland, and I expect as healthy as your State. Improved lands can be bought for from five to ten dollars per acre ; this is without regard to the size of the tract so that it is all sold. I have a small place near where I live, one hundred and eighty-five acres—thirty acres cleared—comfortable house, stables, cribs, etc., etc. I offer this place for one thousand dollars ; there was no cotton made on it last year ; the year before, a young man with negro boy twelve years old made seven bales of cotton, and corn enough for another year. I have a finely

improved place upon which I live. hat I would also sell at a fair price, say for what the buildings cost or are now worth, to be valued on the place ; the entire county is offered for sale. It seems hard after a man has improved a home, and followed a business as I have cotton planting for over thirty years, to now have to give it up. There is not to-day a magistrate commissioned to act in this county, or any officer, except a sheriff—and I doubt if he is properly qualified ; This is not an inviting condition of things, but I hope it will not last. Send us some good, honest working people—Europeans or Chinese, not orators, like Phillips ; we have now, and have always had enough of that sort of people, and they do as much good here as he does in Massachusetts, — that is just none at all, I expect.

WEST MISSISSIPPI.

The following counties in Mississippi, viz : DeSoto, Tunica, Coahoma, Bolivar, Washington, Issaquima, Panola, Tallahatchie, Sunflower and Yazoo, contain in *bottom* lands about three million three hundred and twenty-eight thousand acres of the richest land on the face of the earth. Let us suppose only one half of this reduced to the cultivation of cotton, and we have here one million six hundred and sixty-four thousand acres capable of producing a like number of bales of cotton, besides yielding grain and all the requirements of a self-sustaining population ; the cotton forming a clear export. At present prices this would bring, in *gold*, one hundred millions of dollars. What are the mines of California compared to this rich yield — one hundred millions annually and self-supporting besides ?

But you may say, is not this land subject to overflow ? My reply is there is now a continuous levee from the lower part of Coahoma to the lower end of Issaquima in this district, a distance of two hundred and twenty-seven miles, being constructed and sustained by an annual tax of ten cents per acre on the land, and one cent per pound on all lint cotton raised in the district.

Extend these levees above — let Congress act and aid in extending them — and you will have here the granary of the United States.

EAST ARKANSAS.

Why have cotton manufacturers not turned their attention to the production of cotton themselves or so shaped the legislation of the

country as to increase its production? The Federal Government goes on from year to year making immense appropriations to the Pacific Railroad and kindred enterprises, when half, yes, one third of the amount spent in levees on the Mississippi River, and drainage by means of canals, would develop and bring into cultivation enough rich alluvial land to make three or four million bales of cotton, and as much sugar as the Isle of Cuba. Nothing can do so much to increase the production of cotton as the protection of these lands from overflows. The survey made by United States Engineers in 1860, referred to in the report of the Commissioner of Lands for 1867, estimates the cost of completing the levees at \$14,000,000. This amount is annually lost by these floods. The crops which could be raised on lands which could be reclaimed, would be worth as much annually as the whole annual product of the gold and silver mines of California and Nevada.

I do not know of anything which would favor the increased production of cotton so much as for the manufacturers of New England to unite in petitioning or memorializing Congress on this and other cognate subjects.

To get Congress to nationalize the enterprise would give confidence to cotton growers, would stimulate the States to aid and assist the General Government and would induce men of energy and business to invest in and work these lands.

I have taken the liberty of making these suggestions to you, because it is, in my opinion, the only step to bring back the production of the great Southern staple to its ante-bellum status, and to be heeded, the movement would have to be made from some other section than this. The reason is too obvious for specification.

CAMDEN, ARKANSAS.

On behalf of this portion of Arkansas, we would like to say that in soil, climate and training of its people, it is the best adapted to the growth of cotton in this county, and probably in all the world. In the State of Arkansas, at large, are 15,000,000 acres of cotton land, 10,000,000 acres are "bottom-land" (alluvial), capable of growing a bale to the acre annually. If once under cultivation, half a crop would make more cotton than was ever grown in one year in America. At present, we understand the Patent Office report to rank this State next to Mississippi, the largest cotton State. In all this State, the

best part is the southwest part, lying upon the affluents of the Red River and the Ouachita. Part of the crop of this region, is shipped by the Red River, *via* Shreveport, and the remainder goes on board the steamboats at this city which is yearly becoming more of a "market," where planters sell their cotton and purchase supplies.

Before the war, the largest crop received in one year, was 45,000 bales at this point. Since the war, the crop of 1867 and 1868 brought in 16,000 bales of cotton, and this year 20,000 bales. The difference is due to adverse circumstances, very tiresome to us, which you doubtless understand perfectly. We might be permitted to add, that the time and unquietness incident to politics of all parties is not favorable to the continuous labor necessary to grow cotton, — especially in the fall season of the year, when every dry day must needs be improved, in order to gather cotton carefully a handful at a time.

The people are now in good heart, saying that one more crop of cotton will put them out of debt, and enable them to purchase some luxuries. To this end great efforts will be made this year for a new crop, but not, we think, to the neglect of corn and other things necessary for family use.

Where lands are so new and rich, few care to be at the trouble and expense of fertilizing. Improved agricultural implements find a growing demand. Some new and improved gins will be purchased, but only a few; the gins now in use are the old ones, which rusted during the war, and have since been doctored. We think this region would become very productive of cotton, and that of the best quality, if we only had good dirt roads, radiating from this city to the interior; or one railroad from this point west to the Red River, about sixty miles; that done, good dirt roads would find the way to it upon the ridges between the water courses; but at present all cotton has to be hauled *across* extensive bottom-lands, over roads so bad in the rich soils, that we are sometimes by our customers ordered to pay the wagoners as high as ten dollars per bale for hauling only eighty or ninety miles. It is likewise a great discount on human life, to wagon and team all winter in bad weather over such roads. When strangers come to look at our lands that is their sole objection to this country. The people will be too poor for sometime yet for such undertakings.

Nothing is wanting but rest from politics, and good roads to raise this country to great prosperity. The people are disposed to work

hard and live economically. With roads, all the rest may be left to the operation of natural causes.

PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS.

To give you a more general idea, let me say that from this point, — Pine Bluff, on the Arkansas River, to the Mississippi River, fifty miles — it is almost one continuous bottom (alluvial) land. North of the Arkansas River, for thirty miles, it is the same. About one-tenth of this land is in cultivation. There is in this county alone about 60,000 acres of unentered land, belonging to the State or United States. A large amount of this land is very fine, and only needs labor and a small capital to carve out 30,000 comfortable homes. The government lands can be entered under the Homestead Act.

A large amount of unimproved land has been and will be subscribed to the different railroads, which lands will be put in market at once, or sold to emigrants, for labor on the roads, or to emigrant companies in large bodies. Thousands of acres were entered by speculators before the war, and have been sold for taxes, or under the bankrupt laws, for a nominal sum. Parties who are here, and watch their chances, can buy improved lands for a mere song. For instance, only about a month ago, a farm of 1,000 acres, — 300 acres open, — dwelling, out-houses, gin, etc., which cost \$5,000, at least, was sold for \$2,000. It was held by the owner before the war, at \$40,000. A very small cash outlay would buy land enough to settle a large colony upon. I could buy you 100,000 acres — all good land — at an average of \$2 per acre, unimproved, or only partially so.

You are aware that we have two distinct classes of land in this State, — at least in the Southern, or cotton-growing section, — that is, bottom land, which does not need manuring; and the upland, which does. The first will make an average of 1 bale of cotton, or 50 bushels of corn to the acre, well worked, without manuring, and much of it 2 bales. The hill lands, with good cultivation and a little manuring, will make 2 bales to 3 acres. Every variety of fruit or grain will grow on either class of land.

You speak of raising stock. Let me explain this to you. The idea prevails at the North that because we bought and still buy meat largely of the North and Northwest, especially mess pork and bacon, that we cannot raise our own meat. There never was a greater

delusion. Bacon can be raised here for less than one-half of what it costs to raise it in Kentucky or Ohio. Any farmer here can, with a little care, raise his own meat, and never feed his hogs or cattle. It is, of course, better to feed two or three months in the winter. But that costs us but little. Our lands will make 400 bushels of sweet potatoes or turnips to the acre, and one bushel of potatoes will fatten as much meat as a bushel of corn. At the North they must feed six or seven months in the year, and pasture them in the summer on valuable lands. Here we have free pasturage for our stock.

The average rent for improved cotton lands this year, is five to six dollars per acre. The great fault of our farming system is, an effort to do too much without capital. Our farmers plant too much to the hand. This, however, they are gradually learning.

ALABAMA.

Cotton culture for the next few years presents a fine field for private enterprise and speculation. With a moderate amount of capital I can easily make 50 per cent. A man familiar with the character and habits of the negro can now control him so far as to make him yield a handsome profit on investment. Land in large bodies can be bought cheap and can, in many instances, be made to pay 100 per cent the first year. The place on which I am living and have rented for ten bales of cotton can be bought for \$6,000. It is capable, with the labor now on it, of producing 100 bales of cotton weighing 500 lbs. each and worth \$12,000. It has a nice cottage dwelling and two artesian wells. I am in no way interested in the sale, for I would buy it myself if I had the money. I would join any capitalist in purchasing, putting my services against the capital, in the division of proceeds, until I paid for my share. There is a great deal of money to be made now in the culture of cotton as a speculation by purchasing the land.

TEXAS.

We offer immigrants cheap lands, and an opportunity to grow such. The labor of a white man is most remunerative—his caution in cultivating cotton makes a few acres produce largely; his economy is in wonderful contrast with the carelessness and wastefulness of the negro. They could buy land easily—on their own terms as to price and time.

LOUISIANA.

The past season's crop in lower Louisiana has been a fine one and with better organized labor, and more of it, the yield would have been heavy. We know of 8 and 10 bales being made to the hand in the low lands, say from a bale to a bale and a half to the acre, and portions of the same land can be bought for 1-10th of production of said lands by good, industrious whites. In the hills where lands are good and not far behind the bottoms in fertility, they can be bought for \$3 to \$10 per acre—they will repay industry five hundred fold per annum. The bottoms are not so healthy in the fall, but at other seasons are quite so—the hills as healthy as any part of the world where people *are temperate*. Louisiana statistics show more old persons than any part of the globe. We welcome and invite all good people to come here who desire to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow—they will be protected and respected. We do not want birds of passage who come to fill offices and vituperate our people.

MISSISSIPPI.

Immigrants are wanted very much, and will be welcomed by all of us. We will cut up our land into farms, put up tenements and give them every assistance the first year and then when they are able to buy, we will sell the land at its market value or we will rent for shares or settled rent. They could buy just as much land as they want—planters want to sell off their surplus lands.

MISSISSIPPI.

The most striking change here, is that of renting to the laborers. A negro man and his family (wife) can live well on 3 acres of ground; one acre in corn, will make fifty bushels, of which it takes about half for bread; $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre of Irish potatoes, which will yield about 50 bushels, and fifty of sweet potatoes, on the same ground—planted in June; $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre in other vegetables, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres in cotton, making $1\frac{1}{2}$ bales will give them all the necessities of life, with poultry easily raised.

MISSISSIPPI.

We want good people,—planters, farmers, mechanics, horticulturists and those of good, industrious habits of any trade. They

would be treated hospitably and welcomed to every facility we could afford in any laudable undertaking. Southern people have no respect for foreigners who regard the African as their equal and make him their associate. When he shows himself a Caucasian, he is treated as such. We take sides with the negro where and whenever injustice is done him. Money will now buy land in any locality in Mississippi by whomsoever tendered, black or white.

ALABAMA.

We need emigrants badly, and can offer them as inducements twelve dollars to fifteen dollars per month and board, for stout men; six dollars to ten dollars for women, or one half of the crop, and all they do is to feed and clothe themselves. Everything else necessary for cultivating the crop will be furnished by the employer.

They could buy land easily, Government lands in this county for twelve and a half cents per acre, if they will settle on it, live there and work; other lands from five dollars to fifteen dollars per acre. Government lands would have to be cleared.

The chief need of our neighborhood is the emigration of industrious labor—white labor. Our poor white men since the rise of cotton, have many of them left the poor lands, and are improving in industry.

ALABAMA.

We offer a kind welcome to all who come to *work*. Land at the market rate (it is rising with cotton). If emigrants cannot buy and have no means, either one half the crop after all expenses are paid out of it, or one quarter if the emigrant bears expenses, or money wages if he prefers it, with no charges for house, garden, and fuel. Farm wages are unsettled; one dollar per day is given for jobbing. They could buy land easily. But many who wish to sell, are unwilling to accept current rates. The easiest way for emigrants to buy, would be for a number to buy a large plantation and to divide it into small tracts; you can buy large more cheaply than small.

GEORGIA.

What we want, is industry, perseverance, economy and punctuality. These are the chief needs. If this was remedied, we could do very well.

Immigrants are very much wanted if of the right sort, viz., *honest* laborers, and can get for wages, houses to live in, lands fenced and cleared, mules furnished and fed, gears and other utensils furnished by the proprietor; the laborer feeds and clothes himself, and gets one-half of all he makes of any and every sort of produce. If necessary, provisions and clothing will be advanced by most of the planters.

It is harder, much harder, to get laborers; they are gone to railroads, or to little rude cabins and patches in poor lands, where they set up for themselves. Give us cash capital and labor; *certainty* of labor, and its *control*. White labor was diminished by the war, and fifty per cent, more than fifty per cent, of black labor has disappeared from the *fields*. The negroes are not dead, nor gone, as elections show; but they have very much *quit the fields* of good planters.

SOUTHERN GEORGIA.

With regard to the large plantations being divided into cotton farms, they are rather being abandoned, — contracting, for want of fences and labor, — but there is some division. Immigrants can be offered perfect safety, a kind climate, soil that yields wheat, corn, cotton, sugar cane, rice, Scuppernong grapes, *cheap lands and houses*, good markets, mills, schools, Protestant churches, post-offices, wood for fuel, and corn-bread, with fruits and berries and railroads, and negro voters, cheap for election times, enough to rule all the pleasant old cotton region forever; an overwhelming majority of black lords, ready to vote any way for a pair of shoes and a red cravat. They could buy land easily, — the whole country, — land, houses and all for \$2 to \$5 per acre, cash. Lands without houses, especially, can be bought in boundless quantity. The sale of houses, will be more difficult now, as they are exempt from sale for debts. But this should attract immigrants, for their houses can never be lost.

MIDDLE FLORIDA.

Large plantations could be purchased and divided into small farms to great advantage. Since the war I have made three crops, planting a very small proportion of my land, and have made an average annual income of \$9,000, and I value my property, with improvements, mules, etc., etc., at \$50,000. I use black labor entirely, and almost exclusively my former slaves.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Immigrants are wanted very much indeed. Lands would be furnished them very cheap, or would, in many places, be given them,—that is to industrious parties, who would bring out other settlers. In my neighborhood, several thousand acres would be sold at \$2 to \$5 per acre—good lands. I would contract with immigrants to furnish them lands, to work on shares, and give them the privilege of buying at any time, at a low figure. I would assist, too, in supplies, etc., etc.

BARNWELL CO., SOUTH CAROLINA.

I will give them as much land as they want, to tend land for me. Say, I will let them have one acre for themselves, for every two they tend for me, and I will supply the mule power, and feed it.

After one year's operation, I would sell such of them land on time, as I found industrious. We want capital and law. However, the first includes the second.

CLARENDON CO., SOUTH CAROLINA.

Immigrants can lease for one, two, and three years (with buildings and cleared lands), for one-third of the crop, or, if furnished with horse-power, farming tools and supplies, for man and beast, one-half the crop; or small farms will be sold them for about \$5 per acre, one-third cash, balance one and two years, secured by mortgage; or less price, all cash.

BARNWELL CO., SOUTH CAROLINA.

Immigrants can all get remunerative employment. Parties have, in my knowledge, offered homesteads of fifty acres to those who would improve and settle alternate lots, to certain amounts.

LANCASTER CO., SOUTH CAROLINA.

Lands are very cheap,—from one to ten dollars per acre; and a mild and very healthy climate. It is, indeed, in this respect a paradise; excelling for fruit, especially. Immigrants should come in a body, an agent having first purchased land for them.

They could buy land easily near us; many thousand acres, and at low prices. We are greatly in need of money. This section was devastated by the armies.

TENNESSEE.

The large farms are still held by the old proprietors, but are being divided into convenient quantities for the laborers who work in families, or small squads. Immigrants are much needed. Cheap lands would be offered them of great natural fertility, and susceptible of the very highest degree of improvement, and producing the greatest profitable variety of agricultural productions, — fruits and vegetables, a climate mild and genial, and *remarkably healthful*, these and a hearty welcome, we offer to all immigrants respectable and industrious.

Few countries, it would seem, could offer such opportunities to enterprise and industry. Again and again we have accounts of laborers on the share system this past year receiving sums ranging from one hundred to as high as one thousand dollars as the return for their year's work, and this after the expense of food, clothing and fuel for themselves and families had been paid.

For the capitalist there are great tracts to be bought at cheap rates, which he can cultivate either by large forces of organized labor, or by settling them in with colonies of immigrants who will return him, for the mere rent of his land and the use of his gin-house and tools, a share of their gross crop, varying from a quarter to a third ; whilst waterpower stands ready for factories and railways and levees yet to be built, and mineral resources but partially developed will doubtless in time yield rich returns.

For the poor man, if without money to buy land or to purchase a farming outfit, remunerative wages are offered,— or a share of a crop which promises for many years a large return to the farmer, with fuel, food and lodging for himself and family. If he be a skilled mechanic or mill operative he cannot fail to find employment at extra wages. Or again, on the tenant system he may farm the land he hires

with tools and team furnished by the proprietor, and pay his rent in money or in a portion of the crop, the whole of which is ginned and prepared for market at the landlord's expense. The landlord also will make advances, if desired, for clothing and extra food. If possessed of some little capital he can become the owner of a small farm, the cultivation of which can hardly fail to reward his industry with a competency — perhaps wealth.

SMALL FARMS.

What we need, what any country needs, to secure to itself republican liberty in peace and prosperity, is a great intelligent "middle class," so called. That class, the aggregate of whose wisdom makes that simple "common sense," so needed in the great affairs of a nation, and so rarely found in any single individual — that *vox populi* which is the *vox Dei*. To this class no social order contributes more valuable elements than the "small farmers."

We find most of the emigrants who push their way westward seeking at first, indeed, positions as "help" on farms, etc., but it is almost always with the hope, soon and easily realized in a country where land is so cheap, of having each his own little farm and homestead. And we must expect the same in the South. All will eventually prefer to own the land they work, however little, rather than to be hired.

Prominent among the methods that suggest themselves for developing the South, and increasing the production of cotton, is that of culture on "small farms," like that which in the Old World has made productive the soils of Belgium, Saxony, and Lombardy, and which here, in the New,

is rapidly increasing the wealth and yield of the Western and Northern States of our country.

By *small* farms, we mean such as the farmer working himself would cultivate with the help of his family, and perhaps one or two hired hands — raising at the same time the food for his family and the cattle. This is the common method, as is well known, in the North, and wherever it prevails, and in that proportion, the land is better cultivated, and the total yield per acre increased.*

Nor is the land the only gainer. The character of the population is improved by this ownership of the soil. Compare the condition of the hired laborer with that of

* Keichensperger, himself an inhabitant of that part of Prussia where the land is most subdivided, has published a long and very elaborate work to show the admirable consequences of a system of freeholds in land. He expresses a very decided opinion that not only are the *gross* products of any given number of acres held and cultivated by small or peasant proprietors, greater than the gross products of an equal number of acres held by a few great proprietors, and cultivated by tenant farmers, but that the *net* products of the former, after deducting all the expenses of cultivation, are also greater than the net products of the latter. He mentions one fact which seems to prove that the fertility of the land in countries where the properties are small, must be rapidly increasing. He says that the price of the land, which is divided into small properties in the Prussian Rhine provinces, is much higher, and has been rising much more rapidly than the price of land on the great estates. He and Prof. Rau both say that this rise in the price of the small estates would have ruined the more recent purchasers, unless the productiveness of the small estates had increased in at least an equal proportion; and *as the small proprietors have been gradually becoming more and more prosperous*, notwithstanding the increasing prices they have paid for their land, he argues, with apparent justness, that this would seem to show that not only the gross profits of the small estates, but the net profits also have been gradually increasing, and that the net profits per acre, of land, when farmed by small proprietors, are greater than the net profits per acre of land farmed by a great proprietor. He says, with seeming truth, that the increasing price of land in the small estates cannot be the mere effect of competition, or it would have diminished the profits and the prosperity of the small proprietors, and that this result has not followed the rise.

Albrecht Thaer, another celebrated German writer on the different systems of agriculture, in one of his later works (*Grundsätze der rationellen Landwirthschaft*) expresses his decided conviction, that the *net produce* of land is greater when farmed by small proprietors than when farmed by great proprietors or their tenants. This opinion of Thaer is all the more remarkable, as during the early part of his life, he was very strongly in favor of the English system of great estates and great farms.

Mr. Kay adds from his own observation, "The peasant farming of Prussia, Saxony, Holland, and Switzerland is the most perfect and economical farming I have ever witnessed in any country." (*Mill's Political Economy*. p. 338, Vol. I.)

the small proprietors. Be it even ten or twenty acres only that he can cultivate, it calls out a self-resource, industry, frugality, and intelligence which the dependent condition never could, and which make him at once a better farmer and a more useful citizen. Each little portion of his small lot can receive a minute and particular attention, which, were he to undertake a larger farm, he could not find the time to give, let alone the fact that there is needed more than the average *brain* to conduct a great plantation.*

* "If we listen to the large farmer, the scientific agriculturist, the "(English)" political economist, good farming must perish with large farms; the very idea that good farming can exist, unless on large farms cultivated with great capital, they hold to be absurd. Draining, manuring, economical arrangement, cleaning the land, regular rotations, valuable stock and implements, all belong exclusively to large farms, worked by large capital, and by hired labor. This reads very well; but if we raise our eyes from their books to their fields, and coolly compare what we see in the best districts farmed in large farms, with what we see in the best districts farmed in small farms, we see, and there is no blinking the fact, better crops on the ground in Flanders, East Friesland, Holstein, in short, on the whole line of the arable land of equal quality of the Continent, from the Sound to Calais, than we see on the line of British coast opposite to this line, and in the same latitudes, from the Frith of Forth all round to Dover. Minute labor on small portions of arable ground gives, evidently, in equal soils and climate, a superior productiveness, where these small portions belong in property, as in Flanders, Holland, Friesland, and Ditmarsch, in Holstein, to the farmer. It is not pretended by our agricultural writers, that our large farmers, even in Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, or the Lothians, approach to the garden-like cultivation, attention to manures, drainage, and clean state of the land, or in productiveness from a small space of soil not originally rich, which distinguish the small farmers of Flanders, or their system. In the best-farmed parish in Scotland or England, more land is wasted in the corners and borders of the fields of large farms, in the roads through them, unnecessarily wide, because they are bad, and bad because they are wide; in neglected commons, waste spots, useless belts, and clumps of sorry trees, and such unproductive acres, than would maintain the poor of the parish, if they were all laid together and cultivated. But large capital applied to farming is of course only applied to the very best of the soils of a country. It cannot touch the small, unproductive spots, which require more time and labor to fertilize them than is consistent with a quick return of capital. But although hired time and labor cannot be applied beneficially to such cultivation, the owner's own time and labor may. He is working for no higher terms at first from his land than a bare living.

"But, in the course of generations, fertility and value are produced; a better living, and even very improved processes of husbandry are attained. Furrow draining, stall feeding all summer, liquid manure, are universal in the husbandry of the small farms of Flanders, Lombardy, Switzerland. Our most improving districts, under large farms, are but beginning to adopt them. Dairy husbandry even, and the manufacture of the largest cheeses, by the co-operation of many small farmers; the mutual assurance of property against fire and hail storms, by the co-operation of small farmers; the most scientific and expensive of all agricul-

"Give a man the secure possession of a bleak rock and he will turn it into a garden; give him a nine years' *lease* of a garden and he will turn it into a desert." "The magic of *property* turns sand to gold." — J. Stuart Mill.

The tendency of cotton culture is, we think, more and more to increase the yield per acre, rather than to plant more acres; and to bring the acres that are cultivated within an area that can be easily superintended by one man. This will also be an additional safe-guard against worms, as on a smaller area they can be more thoroughly exterminated on their first appearance.

"Nothing has been so detrimental to the interests and prosperity of our planters as the neglect of corn and grass culture, without which no plantation can be in successful working condition, — the neglect to provide for a proper and adequate supply of the substance upon which their capacity to make and gather their main product so largely depends. The planter who does not raise his own corn can never feel independent, nor count upon his laborers and his stock." — *Southern Paper*.

"In these districts, the South of France, the admirable rotation of crops, so long practised in Italy, but at that time generally neglected in France, was already universal. The rapid succession of crops, the harvest of one being but the signal of sowing immediately for a second, (the same fact which strikes all observers in the valley of the Rhine,) can scarcely be carried to greater perfection; and this is a point, perhaps, of all others the most essential to good husbandry, when such crops are so justly distributed as we generally find them in these provinces; cleaning and ameliorating ones being made the preparation for such as foul and exhaust." — J. Stuart Mill's *Political Economy*, p. 351, Vol. I.

Perhaps the time may come, it may even not be far distant, when the cotton plant, instead of being grown in great, continuous fields, a hundred or more acres together, will be cultivated as in a garden; planted, manured and tended with the same care that has made barren sand in portions of New Jersey the productive market-garden which feeds New

tural operations in modern times, the manufacture of beet-root sugar; the supply of the European markets with flax and hemp, by the husbandry of small farmers; the abundance of vegetables, fruits, poultry, in the usual diet even of the lowest classes abroad, and the total want of such variety at the tables even of our middle classes, and this variety and abundance, essentially connected with the husbandry of small farmers, — all these are features, in the occupation of a country by small proprietor-farmers, which must make the inquirer pause before he admits the dogma of our land doctors at home, that large farms, worked by hired labor and great capital, can alone bring out the greatest productiveness of the soil and furnish the greatest supply of the necessities and conveniences of life to the inhabitants of a country." — Mill's *Political Economy*, p. 331, vol. I.

York, with its million of inhabitants. Every instance of such cotton culture, careful and minute, that has come to our knowledge in *the replies*, has proved a success, for it insures that thorough, untiring cultivation, which is essential to make a good crop of cotton.

The "small farm" system seems growing in favor throughout the South, and we give below extracts from our letters, that seem exhaustive as to the methods of culture, forms of accounts, and the cost of outfit, etc., required for a small farm, and that show from actual instances, the returns the small proprietor may fairly expect for his labor.

MISSISSIPPI.

The small farm system has not yet been sufficiently adopted in the South to furnish any reliable data. The unsettled condition of society there since the suspension of hostilities has not been favorable to immigration, and the class of Northern men who have gone thither have been mere politicians, who have done more to ferment animosities than to assuage them. What the South needs is muscle, not words, and I write "by the card" when I assure you that she will gladly welcome the man who goes there to work, from whatever quarter he may hail, without regard to his political views.

That the small farm system will soon become popular and successful, I have not the least doubt and, that it will add largely to the cotton yield in a very few years is demonstrable. To a Southerner the unceasing labors expended upon your farms in the North, the immense outlay for fertilizers, and the great variety of products of the field, fold and dairy, which go to make up the income, are all matters of pure astonishment. Accustomed to the "task" system which obtained before the war, and seeing our slaves frequently finishing their allotted duties by noon and idling the rest of the day, such inspiring energy as we witness here is as startling as it is novel. Such application given to our fruitful soils, and one half of the enterprise and intelligence which your farmers exhibit, would speedily enrich the farmer, the South and the whole country.

The culture of short staple (upland) cotton is by no means a

difficult branch of agriculture and can be acquired in a single season by any intelligent farmer. As a settler would desire to devote his first year to making himself comfortable in home and larder, he would not wish to plant the staple to any extent, and with an experimental acre or two and such information and observation as his neighborhood would afford he would acquire all the practical knowledge necessary for making cotton his leading crop thereafter. The expenditures for gins and presses would fall heavily upon small farms but this might be obviated by having these in common with others in the vicinity. This plan has been successfully adopted since the war by many planters whose plantations were overrun by Sherman's army.

On large places the supply of working stock usually shows one horse or mule to every fifty acres of cleared land. But few labor-saving implements are now in use for cotton — the people, however, are anxious for their introduction and for any improvements which will promote economy in labor, which is now embarrassingly scarce.

TEXAS.

Large farms with negro labor will not do. White men with small farms, working themselves with one or two negroes do well.

In Texas any man, however poor, can own a home ; he can buy it very cheap, and have time to pay for it. When once possessed of two hundred acres of land, the law protects it from forced sale under execution ; it is his always unless he voluntarily alienates and abandons it. An industrious man can cultivate five acres in cotton, ten acres in corn, one acre in potatoes, a garden, and raise an orchard ; five acres in cotton would yield him from three to five bales of cotton worth from two hundred and fifty dollars to three hundred and fifty dollars in gold ; he can have a few cows, sheep, pigs, turkeys and chickens, which will supply his family with plenty of food, and yield some money for domestic expenses — ten acres in corn yield four hundred bushels. In my old neighborhood there are 10,000 acres of idle land to one cultivated. It is natural for you to ask why I abandoned such opportunities. I can say with the poet, "thank God I can plough," but I do not want to do it. I commenced at the plough, had a competency, but the results of the war left me poor, and without the habits of work and economy. I also had a disposition to repine in the midst of the evidences of ruin, so I escaped from them ;

neither was I prepared to manage free negroes. The negroes were not prepared for the sudden change. They demanded the benefits which their former condition entitled them to, with more privileges than freedom gave them, and with me they had their wishes, and the result was a failure. The negroes as a working class will soon disappear, and the production of cotton will steadily decrease unless a white population of immigrants come forward rapidly to cultivate the abandoned fields or open new ones.

MISSISSIPPI.

The small farm system seems to have been a perfect success. We have authentic accounts of the workings of a farm of twenty acres, which, under an intelligent system of culture last year, produced thirty-two bales of cotton. The lands of the South have never been properly worked. With the energy and vigor of your New England farmers, their unequalled fertility would soon attract a large emigration.

WEST MISSISSIPPI.

You ask for amount of "small farm" operations in my neighborhood. I know precisely what you mean, having been born and educated in a colder climate than this, and seen the small farms of the New England and middle States. In that sense we have none, but we have what is often seen in New Jersey and Pennsylvania—small tracts of land rented for a fixed consideration, or on shares; only *that* small tract of land is not set apart, and "fenced in" by itself. Here a plantation of a thousand acres, as in Italy and France, is often let to families, or a few laborers combined, each "squad" having as much land marked out for them as they wish, and for which they pay rent in lint cotton, or a share of the crop. They are generally furnished with dwellings, fuel, teams, implements and food, if desired, for which the proprietor is paid by a share of the crop raised.

Suppose, then, a family wished to settle here? Let him, his wife, and children and friends come. On some part of the plantation he will find a dwelling, and whatever he may desire to cultivate; as much soil as he can till, will be placed at his disposal. All we want is, labor! labor!!—all else is here. Understand, planters are now putting up tenant houses on different parts of their places, either for negro or white families. The free negro being wasteful, careless,

indolent, ignorant, destroying half of everything intrusted to him to labor with, it will be a day of rejoicing to see white and reliable and intelligent labor find its way to the rich lands of this part of the valley of the Mississippi. I have examined agriculture and lands in all parts of Europe. In no part of the world is there a richer and more productive soil than this. Man provides nothing for his cattle. The apple, peach, pear, apricot, far exceed those of the North, while the fig and melon, and small fruits obtain great size. This evening the severe storm blew down an apricot tree in my garden, which I have just measured, and find it fifty-two inches in circumference, and I have had peach trees larger than this apricot. I merely mention this to tangibly convey to you the gigantic proportions that obtain to all the productions of the soil.

But no country was ever so cursed with worthless labor as this is. The laborers in the cotton belt of the Southern States, consuming no more provisions, involving no more expense than they did, could have produced by ordinary diligent labor, *one million* more bales of cotton during the past year. Now all this, then, — ninety million dollars, — would have been purely net profit, over and above what we now have, — a nice sum for pocket money.

We will, probably, never see here such another season for cotton as 1868; and yet we could not get over six bales to the hand. In former times, year by year, these same hands always and easily raised me two bales average to a hand. Therefore, I say, send us emigrants; send us labor, reliable labor. You do not know the force that word *reliable* has! If you could not find around you any one whom you could trust, nor any one whom you could with any degree of certainty expect to continue in your employment another year, and feel that very probably you would not be able to procure a single hand where you wish for fifty, you would realize that we want reliable labor.

But all this may not interest you. It is mentioned incidentally, however, to point out how much we need labor. All have idle lands; they want them cultivated, and the inducements offered to the negro are so tempting, that he does not think of having a home, expecting every year to have fine offers made him; and they will be made, until we have more men to cultivate the soil, now ready for the plow.

Negroes here now are furnished houses, fuel, teams, implements, gins, presses, etc., etc.; in short, *everything*, except clothing and pro-

visions, and *one-half of all they raise* for their labor. Are not such terms as these inducements for emigrants to come here? I think a white man and two grown sons could raise twenty-four bales of cotton, besides ample corn, etc. The half of this would be a good reward for his labor.

ALABAMA.

Our country greatly needs labor, intelligent, faithful *white* labor; such a class of people would meet a most hearty welcome here.

Every pains would be taken by our people to make the homes of such people happy, and to make their inmates prosperous. Your "small farm" idea will not do, our best lands are held and owned in large bodies, say from 1,000 to 10,000 acres; small farmers are generally attached to their homes, and not disposed to sell.

The only plan by which your ideas of populating this country with white labor can be made to succeed, I think, will be to form a stock company, with, say from \$100,000 to \$300,000; let a proper portion of said capital be laid out in good lands, in large *bodies*, (the larger the body, the cheaper it can be bought); have said lands divided up judiciously into small farms, with suitable improvements, each for a family. In this way, from ten to one hundred or more families might come and settle a community of their own, have their own language, religion, schools, churches, society, habits, etc., etc.

Suppose the lands to cost from \$7 to \$20 per acre; say to the emigrants, you may settle on the land, pay an annual rent of — per cent on the cost of the property, or at the end of five years buy it at from fifty to one hundred per cent on its cost. This plan would enable a poor man to get a desirable home cheaper, and more conveniently than he could in any other part of the world. The land all cleared and ready for cultivation, with good roads, rivers, railroads, etc., all at hand. Without manure, and under the very imperfect cultivation now common here, the average yield of the lands in this region of our State, in *net* clean cotton, is about 150 pounds per acre, worth now in New York, \$45.00, so that you see our best lands would pay for themselves in one crop of cotton. The same land would yield in corn, 20 bushels; in sweet potatoes, from 150 to 200 bushels; one man could, with one mule, cultivate ten acres in cotton, ten in corn, five in potatoes, peas, or other crops. He could not, however, pick out his crop of cotton without help, his wife and children could

help him gather all his crops. An intelligent white man, with good team and implements, could easily cultivate 40 acres, but could not gather his crops without help. Our best lands can now be bought for \$20 per acre. Land that can be bought for \$7 per acre, will yield 100 pounds of seed cotton per acre. It has often been demonstrated that an acre of ordinary land can be made to yield 500 pounds, and double that amount has been produced on one acre ; cotton at twenty cents, will pay well, very well ; nothing better. I regard this region as healthy as any part of the world. I could settle 100 or more families in this county, on good land, with good water, and with every advantage for good health and comfort ; I will very willingly go into such an enterprise with all the capital I could raise, and give it my whole attention. From 40 to 60 or more bushels of corn have often been raised here, to the acre.

Fruit and vegetable farms for the northern and western markets, will start up here on the line of our railroads. I am now looking after that interest.

MIDDLE GEORGIA.

In regard to *small farms*, they are very easily provided for. We count a mule or horse to every 30 acres ; he needs no gin or screw, as his neighbors on large places will gin and pack his cotton for 1-12. There is decidedly more money to be made on small than on large ones, as it can be so easily made up by commercial manures, and while these fertilizers add 4 or 5 times to the amount produced, they add nothing to the amount of labor required, except in gathering the crop.

MIDDLE ALABAMA.

As to what one man with a family can do I might say one man and a woman or boy would cultivate 28 to 30 acres, say an acre and a half in cotton, and would put in and harvest 12 acres of wheat and oats besides. In ordinary farms here, it would require 86 to 160 acres of land to have as much outlet as people want while much less might do as well, say 80 in all then ; to buy that amount now would cost on an average \$400 ; it would require one horse and a yoke of oxen to do it well and then a man might do a little outside hauling on such a farm. 1 sow, 8 pigs, 2 cows and calves, and a few chickens would be considered stock enough. Then we will say it will require

40 bushels of corn to make bread for a family of four, and a little wheat besides ; it would require 75 bushels to feed the horse, and I think the oats and wheat and straw would feed the oxen and cattle and reduce the bread corn to 20 or 25 bushels ; then take say 50 bushels to feed the hogs and you have 150 bushels as a necessary amount for family use and you ought to have 100 bushels left to sell, as you ought to raise some potatoes — both Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes, — and with good economy peas enough to fatten pork ; but I regret to say that such is not often the case ; then for the culture, the 15 acres ought to make 4 bales, equal at present prices to \$500. Now I can and do assure you that I know many who are doing greatly better than that ; in fact I know some who made 4 bales last year to the hand. Before the war I usually made about $3\frac{1}{2}$ bales to the hand and plenty of everything else that was needed on the place, but the fact is there are but few men now working with any degree of industry and energy, and the average product is not over 2 bales to the hand, while it is a fact that but few are working as they might work. There has never been a time in the history of the world where farm labor well laid out paid any better if so well as it now does in the South. But then our white people do not like to work, they have never been raised to it — the black women do not like to work — it is not ladylike, and the black man being free and seeing the white man idle round is of the opinion he can live on half work too, and it is a notorious fact that there is not a jot over half work done. I advise any and all who may be disposed to come South to lay down laziness and a disposition to idle away time. We have an active, genial soil, a healthy country and place where we only need fire half the year and where almost everything needful for life and happiness grows without much labor. And we make as many Irish potatoes as we want, as many sweet potatoes as we want, as many peas as we can gather, and plenty of cabbage, onions, turnips, cucumbers, squashes, melons and fruits of nearly all kinds, and I do not mistake to say, God and nature have done a good part by us while we have been and still are disposed to be harmonious.

RICHFIELD CO., GEORGIA.

I fully concur in your views, particularly that of emigrants settling upon the healthy localities of our States. Middle Georgia, I deem, offers the most inviting advantages and the lands are well

adapted to cotton and all grains, and *most* healthy and pleasant. Climate, water, etc., all inducements requisite.

GEORGIA.

I do not consider, however, that these large planters are much benefit to the community, for they purchase all their supplies even to plantation wagons, in Louisville and New York, and, if it was not for the wages spent by the darkies their neighborhood would not reap one dollar of their surplus or expenditures.

MUSCOGEE CO., GEORGIA.

White families employed in the culture of cotton on small farms have great advantages over planters who employ negro labor on large plantations, as the latter now have to support a greater number of idlers than working hands. Planters hiring twenty hands, have to support on an average, twenty-five to thirty negro women and children in idleness, as the freedmen will not permit their wives and children to work in the field. It is for this reason that the small farmers throughout this section, who, in cultivating his crop, has the assistance of his family in all light work, is now prosperous beyond any former period, while the larger planter who hires a number of laborers, can hardly make both ends meet, even with cotton at twenty-five cents per pound.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Our present system of labor is not sufficiently reliable. This is seriously felt when the crops need working the most, and during picking season, when much cotton is lost, by not being picked at the proper time. The South needs a laboring population, and small farmers could cultivate their own lands, and work for wages on adjoining lands during a great deal of the season. In the upper counties, before the war, small farmers lived within themselves, raising their own corn, wheat, oats, cotton, hogs, and cattle, and, in many instances, they and their families did all the work on the place, including making their own cloth. From this class it is difficult to get any accurate information, as they kept no accounts; but wherever they were industrious, always accumulated means.

 DARLINGTON CO., S. C.

I will here say, it will be of great benefit to this country, and to the world at large, that those large landed estates be cut up into small farms, and those small farms, — say from sixty to one hundred and twenty acres, — let to intelligent, industrious farmers. Do this, and with that high grade of cultivation, any two of the now cotton States, will produce more cotton in one year than ever produced in any one year before the rebellion. With a sufficient supply of industrious labor here in the Southern States, the world could never want for cotton.

 SOUTH CAROLINA.

Small farms, from one hundred to three hundred acres, can be bought, at prices ranging from \$3 to \$5 per acre, *cash*. These lands will yield, per acre, five hundred pounds seed cotton; ten bushels corn; one hundred bushels sweet potatoes, without manure; with the use of one hundred and fifty pounds of premium guano, will more than double its yield. Cleared lands, with buildings, rent from \$1 to \$3 per acre, secured by lien upon the crop. Most generally not enough is made to pay rent, from indolence, etc. We would be glad to have emigrants among us.

 ISSAQUENA CO., MISSISSIPPI.

There is no doubt in my mind that an influx of the kind of emigration that you suggest, would soon give such an impulse to the whole production of this country, that it would soon double all past experience. Emigrants could very easily be settled in the manner that you indicate, and be at the same time welcomed by the whole land-holding, and all other classes. There seems to be an impression prevailing very largely at the North, that such emigrants would be regarded in a hostile light. Whatever truth there might be in the existence of any such feeling among the poor classes, of less fertile regions in the older States, it is entirely erroneous with respect to the fertile and sparsely settled regions of the Mississippi bottom, where the proprietors have large tracts, and are generally men of more liberal and enlightened views, and whose interests now can only be subserved by some change in this direction. The whole system could very easily be made to work in the manner you propose, by the

smaller proprietors or lessees selling their cotton in the seed, to one of their number, whose occupation would be exclusively the management of the ginning and baling, and transportation to market, which would naturally become a separate business under this system. A gin-house should properly be connected with a press for extracting the oil from the seed thus remaining, so that the business could be kept up throughout the year, after the ginning (which would occupy about five months) had been completed, thus furnishing a market at home for the seed, of which such vast quantities are annually entirely lost, as very little of it is ever sent to market, that is distant over a mile from the river. There are not, at present, in this locality, any small proprietors of the kind you mention, from whom I could get you the desired information, except negroes, whose shiftlessness and general bad management would furnish no criterion. Still, among my lessees of this kind, some have cleared as much as from \$1,200 to \$1,600 with the aid of their immediate family this year. With proper management I have no doubt that these results could easily be doubled. In speaking for myself, I think that I express the opinion of the whole class of planters in this neighborhood and region, when I say that I would hail with joy the advent of any class of thrifty farmers, and would rent or sell the lands to such, at rates that could not fail to be remunerative.

TEXAS.

A friend says one of his hands, his coachman of old, raised 8½ bales of cotton on 10 acres last season; and this, he will put 15 acres in cotton, as "his wife is well, and able to work." But he is a favored, capable man.

"A German lady, living a few miles from Sequin, whose name has escaped us, cultivated in her garden, with the help of one or two little girls, one acre of cotton. She has already picked thirty-eight hundred pounds of cotton seed, and expects to be able to pick eight hundred more, which, if it has been cleanly picked, will make three bales of lint cotton. If any one can beat that, we want to hear from them. The extraordinary yield under consideration would seem to indicate that it has heretofore been the custom among cotton growers to put in too much land, i. e. putting in more than they can cultivate. If such is the case, the prediction of Reverdy Johnson, made at a dinner in London, that the time was coming when the cotton crop of

the South would be double what it ever had been before the war may be fulfilled, as the large plantations yield to small farms and hired, uncertain labor gives place to the personal exertion of the planter. Surely, common sense would teach that it is better to raise ten bales of cotton off five acres of ground than twenty acres. But whether the improvement in the cultivation of cotton is to reach an extent so great is yet to be seen — one of those uncertain problems which only the future can demonstrate ; but one thing is certain that the production of cotton has not been near so great as it would have been had it been properly cultivated ; as in fact may be said of all the farm productions of the extreme Southern States. Land has been so plenty and cheap that it was no object to economize it, or husband its resources by thorough cultivation, but we incline to the opinion that experience will teach the lesson, that one acre of ground, well and properly cultivated, is more remunerative than three or four slighted by a lick with the hoe, or turn of the plow, with the promise of another one, which is never fulfilled. Let our farmers try it, and we think in the end they will find it wise.” — *Sequin Journal*.

“ I frequently see accounts of what white labor can do in Texas. Here is an instance that was accomplished in the county of Grimes :

“ Mr. J. H. Williams, assisted by his son and brother-in-law — lads of 13 years each — and no other help, raised and brought to market twenty bales of cotton, weighing 500 pounds each, off of twenty-one acres of land, and sold the cotton for 17½ cents, gold, clear of freights and commissions. In addition to the cotton, he raised 200 bushels of corn, 600 bushels sweet potatoes and 250 bushels pinders.

“ I have the above from as reliable men as are to be found anywhere.” — *Galveston News*.

EASTERN TEXAS.

A small neighbor did this: Rented 50 acres of land at \$1.50 gold, per acre. Hired 5 hands at \$120 per year. Put 30 acres in cotton, and produced 12,000 lbs.; 30 bushels corn per acre ; potatoes and other articles.

CENTRAL ARKANSAS.

Our labor cannot be controlled sufficiently to cultivate lands properly in any large quantity, and in no case have I known a failure made by any industrious family on a small farm. I have such a

family on my place, and they have made annually, since the war, about five hundred and fifty pounds of lint cotton per acre, over the average of our lands prior to the rebellion, and I am inclined to believe that the lands can be made to reach 800 lbs. annually, with good labor and close attention. I know no other way in which the crop can ever again reach what it was in 1860, except by dividing the farm into small farms, and those to good industrious families. The negro cannot be trusted, as he will work only when it suits his convenience ; "hunger" seems to be the only inducement in most cases.

ARKANSAS.

Mr. George Brodie, of Arkansas, had on his place a white man, — "Williams" — who, with *four little girls*, to help pick and hoe, raised nine bales of cotton and six hundred bushels of corn, cultivating eighteen acres in cotton and twenty acres in corn.

Also, "Bob" (colored), who raised seven bales cotton and three hundred bushels of corn, on six acres in cotton, and twelve acres in corn. His wife helped in hoeing, and he hired a woman to help pick. Paid as rent for his land, one-quarter cotton and one-third corn, and had use of house, fuel, and gin.

WEST MISSISSIPPI.

With former modes of cotton culture the world has been made familiar by political agitation. The system of large combinations of labor, in the control of which the planter was farmer, doctor, superintendent, and merchant, all combined. But all intelligent cotton planters now see the utter impossibility of systematizing large gangs of laborers, and working them on the old system, and are ready and anxious to change this for the small farm system ; and those of us who have acted on this latter system, have profited ; while others have lost. I shall give you of last year the result of the farming of three families under my own observation. The first was a father, two sons, — eighteen and twenty, — two daughters grown. They made plenty of corn and provisions, and after paying all debts and expenses, had fifteen hundred dollars and a year's supply of food for themselves and stock. The second, a father, son, and daughter, — all good hands, — realized twelve hundred clear, and provisions for this year. The third did not do so well. But from sickness and other causes, failed, but has money or provisions to pay through this year.

They all were working limited land and stock. This is my own observation of white labor.

SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI.

One of the tenants on this place cultivated last year, with thirteen hands, one hundred and ten acres in cotton, and one hundred and twenty acres in corn; and made a fine crop of corn, and one hundred and twenty-five bales of cotton. The cotton was sold in New Orleans for twenty-six cents per pound.

Another tenant rented four hundred and twelve acres of this estate, and made four hundred and fifty bales of cotton. He (Mr. X.) informed me that after paying all expenses, his net income was near thirty thousand dollars. He combined the cutting of cord wood, which he sold to the steamboats. With the cultivation of this crop of cotton, the profits on the wood helped very much to pay expenses.

NORTH ALABAMA.

A poor man, on a small place,—not in the best cotton land,—by his own industry, aided by his wife and two or three children, and they very small, made fourteen bales of cotton—made his own meat and bread. I will give you still another case. An old negro man rented land, and with his own labor and that of his children, four or five, made twenty-three bales of cotton,—this in 1868.

DE KALB Co., GEORGIA.

A Mr. B —, living in this county in 1867, made eleven bales of cotton without any assistance, with one mule and the help of his wife and two children to pick it out.

A Mr. H—— told me that with the aid of two little negro boys, he made twenty-one bales on twenty-seven acres, with the aid of manure, which he sold at twenty-seven cents, realizing nearly \$2,000 net profit on the year's work, after paying for manure and labor, and yet this land can be purchased for from eight to ten dollars per acre.

GEORGIA.

From a gentleman residing in Lexington, we learn the following facts in relation to the product of a small lot planted in cotton by our old friend J. D. Gresham, last year, in that village.

The lot contained not quite nine-tenths of an acre, and was bordered on two sides with a row of large Pride of India trees, which completely shaded the lands for several feet, leaving for cultivation about three-fourths of an acre. This was planted, about the middle of April, in cotton—the seed used, being the Moina variety. The plant had three plowings, and was hoed twice. The entire yield was seventeen hundred and thirty-two pounds of seed cotton, which made a bale weighing 530 pounds of lint. The crop was carefully handled, put up in a neat package, shipped to this market and sold for forty cents a pound.

The profits were as follows:

One bale, 530 lbs., sold at forty cents per pound . . .	\$212 00
Forty-one bushels of seed, sold at \$10 per bushel . . .	410 00
Total profits from three-fourths of an acre . . .	<u>\$622 00</u>

The expenses were:

Rent of land	\$5 00
Breaking and bedding land for planting	1 00
Planting	75
Three plowings	1 50
Two hoeings	1 00
Picking, at 5 cents per pound	8 50
Ginning, packing and expenses to market	<u>7 25</u>
Total expenses	\$25 00
which, deducted from	622 00
leaves as net profit	597 00

Here we have a net profit from three-fourths of an acre of land of nearly six hundred dollars, being at the rate of about eight hundred dollars per acre. What a future looms up for the Southern people, if they will only be wise and industrious in the use of the splendid advantages which nature has given them! We do not pretend to say that eight hundred dollars can be realized for every acre planted in cotton yet awhile, but we see no reason why, with judicious management and a proper system of fertilizing and rotation of crops, that amount and much more may not be made in a few years. Let every cotton planter ponder well these figures. They have a deep and significant meaning. — *Augusta Constitutionalist*.

Amos Norris, of Warren County, with one plow and a horse, cultivated, this season, eleven acres of land in cotton, and eighteen acres in corn. The land was of the poorest, and yet he made *five* bales of cotton and *one hundred bushels of corn*. Not only did he cultivate this crop without assistance, but, unaided and alone, packed the cotton and harvested the corn.

Adam Todd, of the same county, with but trifling assistance, made *five bales of cotton* on nine acres of land, and *two hundred bushels of corn* on eighteen acres. His land was a little better than that of Norris.

Well done both of you ! Instead of being ashamed of your labor, let there be, henceforth, a glow of manly pride on your brows. Let the success of this one experiment move you to greater exertions in the time to come. If to this spirit of industry you ally sobriety of life, you need not fear for your children's or your own destiny. When the Norrises and Todds shall be multiplied a thousand fold, Georgia will look down on New England and start on a path of empire which the most fervid fancy can but inadequately portray. — *Augusta Constitutionalist*.

LINCOLN CO., GA.

One man in Cartersville, Ga., season of 1868-9, with his own hands alone, on Oakland, limestone country, with ten acres of land, raised four bales of cotton, and corn, vegetables, and pork to support the family through the year. The profit on the cotton was five hundred dollars.

With some it is changing. Good deep plowing in preparing the land, and shallow culture. Small farms and plenty of fertilizers will make a working man rich and healthy in this Lincoln County, Ga. With ten hands I made in 1867, sixty-three bales, four hundred and fifty pounds each ; also, three thousand bushels of corn. With ten hands I made in 1868, fifty-five bales, four hundred and fifty pounds; also, two thousand bushels corn.

WEST GEORGIA.

I recollect seeing an article by Mr. Edward Atkinson, on cotton, in which he predicted that the time yet would come when cotton would be planted in hot beds, and set out. I laughed over it at the time, but lo ! an acquaintance of mine tried it last year on eighteen

acres, with perfect success. He dug long pits, about three or four feet deep, and had a number of boxes made with shavings, — larger at the top than at the bottom — placed them on planks at the bottom of this pit, filled them with manure and soft earth, and planted his seed in January. He covered the pits with canvas at night, and in very cold weather, and in April, when people were preparing to plant, he had stalks a foot high. He then carried them out on their planks to the field, dug his holes, slipped his plant down, and raised his box out, — and thus the plant never felt the change. He made nearly two bales to the acre, and contends that it was easier to do this, than haul out his stable manure. He is a very practical man, and has made a fortune, which is pretty good evidence of his good sense. If Congress will adjourn and quit making any more laws, and leave us to work out our own salvation, we will be a great people. Let the commercial interests and necessities of the country do the work of reconstruction, and all will be well. I assure you, sir, that the majority of our people hardly ever read the telegraphic news now, except to see the price of cotton, so entirely have they lost interest in public affairs. They find that “Few of the ills that men endure, can kings or governments cause or cure,” and have gone to work.

EAST GEORGIA.

It is my humble opinion the laborers (negroes) of the South realized more clear profit on our last crop, than the same class of people in other parts of this country. Very many will work this year for themselves, having portions of the last crop of corn, cotton, etc., with large quantities of lands, which are left uncultivated, and obtainable for one-quarter the product, as rent. I would say, probably fifteen to twenty per cent of the negro laborers will plant this year to themselves; this, coupled to the disposition on the part of all to increase their planting interest, causes complaints for want of labor in many places. To give you an idea of the profits of small farms: I know a small place, a few miles off, of very poor, piney wood land, really worth five dollars per acre, being but twelve acres, and a poor man bought it two years ago, and by his stable manure this year made nine bales cotton, which he sold here for one thousand and seventy dollars.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

In compliance with your request, in the January number of the *Cultivator* I herewith hand you the details and results of the cultivation of nine acres of cotton, the past season, and trust its plain statement will correct the extravagant reports in circulation, of my "wonderful yield" — also prove a satisfactory answer to the numerous letters addressed to me from all parts of the country, as it is impossible for me to reply singly to each.

Land on the hill-side had been well enriched for many years ; plowed an average depth of ten inches in March, rows laid off four and a half feet apart with Brinly's No. 1, and a mixture of two hundred pounds Peruvian Guano, one hundred pounds dissolved bones, one hundred pounds plaster, and one hundred pounds salt per acre, strewed in the furrow. The earth was then returned and a small seed furrow opened. In middle April, at intervals of twenty inches, the seed (a close selection of Dickson's of my own picking) was dropped and covered with the foot. When the plants were well up, the rows were lightly and carefully scraped with sharp hoes and the alleys kept clean with a handle harrow. As the season progressed, the plants were gradually thinned to one in the drill. The grass and weeds were smothered, as soon as they sprouted, by the constant use of the harrow, so that the cotton got the whole benefit of the land.

The crop from the nine acres amounts to seventeen bags, of four hundred and forty pounds each. The land was not all measured, but I feel safe in estimating it at nine acres. One field, which was selected as an average of the whole crop, was carefully surveyed by Prof. Rutherford, and contains 3 67-100 acres, yielding 9,652 pounds seed cotton (or 2,630 pounds per acre). One portion, say one and one half acre, very thin land, scarcely made one bag per acre, while on another portion, heavily dressed for Irish potatoes in 1867, the yield was probably 4,000 pounds per acre. There were over two hundred bearing fruit trees, from five to ten years old, scattered through the fields, so that it is impossible to arrive at any correct estimate of the actual yield.

Good land, deep plowing, pure fertilizers, carefully selected seed, and shallow, continuous work produced the result. — *Southern Cultivator*.

MIDDLE S. C.

My partner, Mr. B——, planted one acre of ground, inferior, in the rear of our store in the City of Columbus this last season, and raised 3,300 lbs. seed cotton on it; this was done by care and attention and the use of 200 lbs. guano, with selected cotton seed. All of our planters are now using guano to the extent of their ability to purchase.

SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE.

A neighbor, living in the county of ——, with the help of one hand working two mules, made 14 bales of cotton, which sold for \$1,680. He also made all the supplies for the support of his farm, to wit, corn, fodder, meat, potatoes, peas and other vegetables. Land cultivated, — 25 acres in cotton, 16 acres in corn. Value of the land, \$16 per acre. Expenses of farm, including use of 2 horse wagon, tools, etc. smith asset, [*viz*] not exceeding \$50. The usual rent of such land is from \$3 to \$4 per acre.

Another, living in same county, ——, worked 8 hands, all being of his own family, and 4 mules. He made 40 bales cotton, which sold for \$4,800. He also made 1,000 bushels of corn — a very sufficient supply for his farm.

OPERATIONS ON THE SHARE SYSTEM. — A freedman on my plantation, with the help of one man and three women, all of his family, made 24 bales cotton, and 1,000 bushels of corn. I furnished the team, 3 mules, and fed them. I also furnished all the plantation implements, a house and ground for garden, and wood for fuel. He received for his share of the crop one half of the cotton and corn. His cotton brought him \$1,440, and his corn is worth \$400.

Still a third, living in same county, ——, worked on the share system, his two sons helping him, aged respectively 13 and 10 years. He made 11 bales of cotton, and 400 bushels of corn. Had in cultivation 30 acres, 18 in cotton, and 12 in corn. Terms of cultivation same as above. He received as part of the crop, \$807. These results were all had last year, 1868. Similar results might be almost indefinitely furnished.

NORTH CAROLINA.

We cultivate about 15 to 25 acres of land to each horse or mule. With proper culture and good management we make a bale of cotton

to the acre, many *careless* farmers fall below that. We can average from 5 to 10 bales of cotton to the horse or mule, and make plenty of provisions, including the bread, meat, vegetables, etc., for the family. Horses vary from \$100 to \$200 each, now. Our present labor is very defective and not reliable, which *causes* the *short crops*; with good reliable labor the cotton crop of the South can be increased four fold or more. Land is cheap, varying from \$4.00 to \$15.00 per acre according to quality and improvements. I am trying foreign labor and find that it succeeds well. I have about 40 Swiss immigrants now settled on my lands; they are happy and contented and doing well. My experience is that small farms pay best, and have consequently divided up my farm into small ones, and settling them up with foreign laborers. Any man passing will note the contrast. Give the South plenty of *good reliable labor*, and she can in a few years send out *many millions* of *bales*. Some of our bottom lands will average from 8 to 15 barrels to the acre (*5 bushels make a barrel*). The uplands are best for cotton, bottoms best for corn. The usual rents are $\frac{3}{4}$ of the corn and $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the cotton. Some rent by the acre which varies according to circumstances from \$1.00 to \$6.00 per acre. Three hundred dollars will start a one horse farm here, including the horse, his feed and all tools for twelve months. The family provisions must be added, which will vary according to size, circumstances, etc. etc., and style and mode of living.

100 or 150 acres can be bought for from 200 to 1,000 dollars, according to quality, and improvements and woodland on it. Then a horse or mule will cost from 100 to 175 dollars; wagon and harness, 75 to 100 dollars; ploughs and gear, etc., 8 or 10 dollars. Corn sells, generally, at \$1.00 per bushel, fodder at from 75 to 100 cents per hundred weight; cows, common, from 20 to 40 dollars; a yoke of oxen at from 50 to 75 dollars; sheep 2 dollars each; hogs 3 to 5 dollars each, according to age, etc. The only difficulty in immigrants being suited here, is that the land being owned by large planters, there are no houses suited to small farmers, there being only the planter's mansion, and the negro cabins on each plantation. There is a saw-mill at Rutledge, on the Georgia railroad, seven miles distant, but lumber is high, — I believe \$20 per thousand.

After speaking of the routine of cotton culture, a correspondent in Georgia goes on as follows to point out how the *time* used in working a crop can be abridged :

The first of April, the corn may be large enough to receive its first working. By the tenth, the cotton should be planted, which would require, with a cotton planter, about half a day. The corn crop could be plowed again about the first of May, probably the work of three days, and between the first and fifth of May, the cultivation of the cotton would commence ; the barring off, scraping, moulding and hilling would require about six days work. Then every two weeks, say about the twentieth of May, the cotton should be plowed and hoed to clean it of weeds, which would require about three days. Again plow the corn and, about the tenth of June, plow cotton again, and go over with the hoe, and again first of July, and perhaps fifteenth to twentieth of July, another plowing or sweeping, when the cultivation would be completed, and would only require in a fair season about twenty days work for one man. All the intervals of time he could devote to his other crops. The cultivation of the corn would be finished in June, and the cotton in July, if fodder pulling was omitted and it should be by the unacclimated. There would be no necessity for any regular work from the middle of July till the first of October, when the corn crop could be gathered in a cool and pleasant season of the year, and after that was done, the cotton could be picked, by which time it would all, or nearly all, be open, and any tolerable picker could gather two hundred pounds per day, and if the three acres yielded a bale to the acre, or four thousand five hundred pounds of seed cotton, it could be gathered in twenty-two and a half fair days, and cotton picked in October would not require being dried on scaffold, as there is seldom any rain in that month. The work of ginning and pressing on the most ordinary gin, would only require about one day for three bales. We thus have a crop of about three bales cotton to the hand, produced with about forty-five days work.

The results of the year's work might be summed up as follows :

3 bales cotton, at 20 cents	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$240 00
200 bushels corn, possibly 300	.	.	.	.	.	.	100 00
100 " Irish potatoes	.	.	.	.	.	.	50 00
100 " sweet "	.	.	.	.	.	.	50 00
Total	.	.	.	.	.	.	<hr/>\$440 00

Earnings of four hands	\$1,760 00
Outfit	883 00
First year's profit	\$877 00

To which must be added the stock and farming implements.

In addition to these crops they would have vegetables of all kinds in abundance through the spring, summer, and fall months. A peach stone planted in rich ground, cultivated and trimmed, will bear some fruit the second year, and the yield will be much greater the third. The fig will bear at twelve months, and abundantly in two years. Watermelons, canteloupes, and muskmelons, with cultivation, grow to great perfection. Every old, neglected field is covered with blackberries. Amongst wild fruits we find the plum, muscadine, a very large and delicious grape, many wild grapes of inferior quality, and the paw-paw, one of the most delicious and healthful of fruits. The pear grows in great perfection, as does the cultivated grape and plum. The apple does well, but only the early varieties are esteemed, because the abundance of other and more delicious fruit in the summer, causes it to be neglected.

The first year the immigrant would more than pay his expenses. The second year, having his mules, farming implements, etc., and forage, on hand, (and if he chose he could also raise his meat), he would start under more favorable circumstances, and the cotton crop might always, after the first year, be made a clear profit, and be enlarged to five acres to the hand, or more, in subsequent years.

A fact which we are not much inclined to appreciate, is this, that cotton will remain longer in the field after maturing, without injury, than any crop grown, of the same value. The cotton crop that was cultivated in 1862, was gathered along the Mississippi river by employees of the Government in March and April, 1863—and February, 1863, was the severest weather on cotton in the field, the writer ever saw. It rained, sleeted, and the wind blew. The reason why we attach so much importance to the gathering of the crop early, is because we planted in former times to the full capacity of each hand, and had to use great industry to gather and prepare the crop for market.

FORMS OF ACCOUNTS.

STATISTICS OF ACTUAL PLANTATIONS, *pro forma*.

VALLEY PLANTATION, TEXAS.

Bought in 1851 and 1863 at a cost of	\$11,901 00
Present value	\$12,500 00
Number of acres	1,000
In cultivation	350

CROP OF 1868.

150 acres in corn, — 3,000 bushels, at 75c. . . .	2,250 00
200 “ “ cotton, — 102 bales, at \$80 00	8,160 00
	<hr/>
	\$10,410 00

PAID LABORERS.

One-third corn	\$750 00
One-fourth cotton	2,040 00
	<hr/>
	2,790 00
	<hr/>
	\$7,620 00

COST OF TEAMS, ETC.

Horse, mules, and oxen	\$1,550 00
Wear for 1 year, 33 per cent	516 66
Tools, and shop expenses	390 00
Wear for 1 year, 50 per cent	195 00

PROVISIONS.

1,500 bushels of corn, at \$ 75	\$1,125 00
3,000 pounds of bacon, at 15	450 00
26 beeves, at 10 00	260 00
14 stacks of fodder, at 10 00	140 00
	<hr/>
	2,686 66
	<hr/>
	<u>\$4,933 34</u>

REMARKS.

Land fairly cultivated. Take cost of land, teams, tools, and provisions, which is the investment, you have \$16,415.00; the net profit, \$4,933.34, shows the profit to be about 30 per cent on investment. The usual pay for labor is one-third of both cotton and corn.

I append the cost of crop of 1868, to see what it cost per pound to raise cotton.

Rent of 350 acres of land, at \$4 00	\$1,400 00
Cost of teams	1,550 00
One-third of cost for use, 1 year	526 66
Tools and shop expenses	390 00
One-third of cost for use, 1 year	195 00
1,500 bushels of corn, at 75c.	1,125 00
14 stacks of fodder, at \$10 00	140 00
3,000 pounds of bacon, at 15c.	450 00
26 beeves, at \$10 00	260 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,096 66

I have tried wages two years. In 1866 paid men \$120; women, \$84. In 1867 paid men \$144; women, \$120. Last year gave part of the crop, and much prefer it. Hands like it better. One-third of all raised is the common price.

Yield per acre in cotton, one-half bale; in corn, thirty bushels.

Labor is scarce, and hard to be obtained: almost impossible for a stranger to get labor.

More land this year than last, and a greater proportion in cotton. The yield has been greatly less than in 1860, because many of the slaves then engaged in raising cotton, now are town loafers or country idlers. Much of the time of those who are planting, is spent in Loyal League meetings, or other unprofitable gatherings. I might say more, but desist.

YIELD OF CROP.

3,000 bushels of corn, one-third to laborers, leaves 2,000 bushels, at 75 c.	\$1,500 00
Deducted from expenses, leaves	\$2,596 66
102 bales of cotton, one-quarter to laborers, leaves 76 bales, at 500 pounds	38,000 pounds.
Divided into cost, makes	2,596,666 "

Cost per pound, about six and one-ninth cents.

Twenty-nine hands, all black.

If cotton will average ten cents, the margin between six and one-ninth and ten cents, will make a decent support for those who have plantations, teams, etc.

ALABAMA.

Without plenty of vegetable matter in the soil the cotton crop is difficult to cultivate, because the plant remains small and delicate so long. The emigrant will, therefore, do well to keep this object always in view.

If he purchases one hundred and sixty acres of land, fifty acres will be sufficient to retain in wood, for hedging is easily made here, either with the osage orange or the pyracantha, which resembles the English thorn.

Of the cleared land he might retain ten acres for "special" crops, with a prospect of much more relative profit than from three times the quantity, in anything else. These crops may be grapes, peaches, pears, cherries, plums, and a few of the earliest apples, all which can be sent to markets North, — Nashville, Louisville, Cincinnati, etc. The residue of the grapes can be converted into wine, or sold to wine makers at full prices, for the enormous amount of the national debt will necessitate a heavy duty on wines for an age to come. None but popular and hardy kinds of grapes and fruits should be planted; and the matter has been so fully tested, that he need be under no necessity to try experiments.

The remaining one hundred acres might be divided into five fields, one for clover of one year's growth, one for clover of two years' growth, one for corn, one for wheat, and one for cotton. It would be some time before the improvement of the land could be effected by clover. In the mean time he could provide for his cotton all the manure he can scrape up, so as to make a half bale per acre. On his clover he might use gypsum, so as to secure a ranker growth, to be turned into the land, so he may make two ears of corn, where he made one before. The subsequent wheat crop would then be good. We have now here men who will reap it, and others who have machines that will thresh it and fan it, at the same time; so that he may bag it and send it away long before the northern wheat ripens. Now a word on the subject of the outfit required for a farm of this size:

5 mules at \$150 00	.	.	.	.	.	\$750 00
1 wagon . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	125 00
1 yoke of oxen . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	100 00
						<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward.</i>	.	.	.	.	.	\$975 00

<i>Amount brought forward</i>	.	.	.	.	.	\$975 00
3 large plows teaming,	.	.	.	.	.	30 00
5 small do.	.	.	.	.	.	30 00
2 top harrows	.	.	.	.	.	10 00
2 side harrows	.	.	.	.	.	10 00
5 bull tongue plows	.	.	.	.	.	15 00
5 pair hames	.	.	.	.	.	7 50
5 pair trace chains	.	.	.	.	.	7 50
1 cross-cut saw	.	.	.	.	.	7 50
1 hand-saw	.	.	.	.	.	4 00
1 broad-axe	.	.	.	.	.	3 00
1 pair patent balances	.	.	.	.	.	7 50
1 grind-stone	.	.	.	.	.	3 00
3 augurs	.	.	.	.	.	2 50
5 broad sweep plows	.	.	.	.	.	15 00
1 harness, common	.	.	.	.	.	15 00
						<hr/>
Add two cows, at \$50 00—hogs at \$75 00	.	.	.	.	.	\$1,142 50
						<hr/>
						125 00
						<hr/>
						\$1,267 50

A farm of this size need not have a gin.

EDGEFIELD Co, S. C.

There are but one or two difficulties with which small farms would have to contend, while they would possess some important advantages. The single laborer would find the culture of cotton inconvenient, unless he could obtain help at certain seasons. A large, and the most important, part of the culture, after the plant comes up in the spring, is done with the hoe, at which time the animal, which the laborer would necessarily have to keep, would be idle. In the next place, the machinery necessary for preparing the crop for market, cannot be constructed in the simplest and cheapest manner, for less than \$800 or \$1,000. There are, however, in every neighborhood, parties who do this work for the small producer, at a charge of from one cent to one cent and a half per pound of lint, that is, from \$4 to \$6 per bale.

On the other hand, success in the production of cotton depends, in the largest measure, upon the care bestowed upon the young plants, and this cannot be obtained to anything like the extent

required from the negro, or, I think, from any hirelings. To this fact is owing, almost exclusively, in my judgment, the large decrease, — twenty-five to thirty per cent, at least, — in the production per hand. Before the war the best planters in Georgia and South Carolina made from five to eight bales for each laborer in the field, and the average was probably about three. Now the best planters make from three to five bales, and the average will hardly reach two. No good reason can be shown, I am sure, why the immigrant, after the experience of one or two years, should not equal and surpass the production of the negro, ten years ago, in the time of slavery. Good planters who succeed (you must bear in mind, however, that not more than one in three succeeds, and hardly a larger proportion of men in any other profession), clear, with cotton at 25 cents, from \$250 to \$400 per hand, which gives from 30 to 70 per cent, according to the nature of the investment, on the capital employed. Under these circumstances the business would be rapidly expanded, but for these reasons: 1st. Deficiency of labor and capital. 2d. Unreliability of labor after it has been engaged. 3d. Remarkable fluctuations in the cotton market. Planting before the war was, probably, as safe as any business in the world; now it is a poor speculation, and this is due, in some measure, to the variations in the price of cotton, but chiefly to the unreliable and frequently unmanageable character of the labor. It would lead me too far, and it is probably unnecessary to try to explain the causes of this; it is clear that the immigrant would be exempt, in a large measure, from the greater hazards so long as he depended on his own labor, and that of his family.

I will append here a calculation of what the immigrant ought to make the first year or two, after which he should do better.

We will suppose the family to contain two good laborers, or their equivalent, and purchase a farm of one hundred acres. Five acres would be devoted to buildings, orchard, vineyard, garden, and truck patches; twenty acres would be left in timber; twenty acres planted in corn; eighteen in cotton; ten to twelve in small grain, ground peas, turnips, etc.; and the remainder in pasture, or at rest.

CAPITAL.

100 acres of land, with buildings	.	.	.	\$1,200 00
One mule or horse	.	.	.	200 00
Cattle and hogs	.	.	.	150 00
<i>Amount carried forward</i>	.	.	.	<u>\$1,550 00</u>

<i>Amount brought forward</i>		\$1,550 00
Corn and fodder		150 00
Implements and seeds		50 00
Guano		100 00
		<hr/> \$1,850 00

YIELD.

20 acres of corn, 300 bushels	\$300 00
18 " cotton, 3,200 pounds lint, at 25c.	800 00
7 " wheat, 50 bushels	100 00
3 " ground peas, 100 bush., at \$1 50	150 00
1,600 pounds of pork	160 00
	<hr/> \$1,510 00

Vegetables, fruit, milk, etc.

I do not put in the cost of living, or the minor articles of production, which would go a good way towards meeting it. The family would have at the end of the year

Land and buildings, worth	\$1,200 00
Mule	180 00
Cattle and hogs	150 00
Products	1,510 00
	<hr/> \$3,040 00
Investment	\$1,850 00
Interest	129 50
	<hr/> \$1,979 50
Balance	\$1,060 50

This calculation is by no means complete, and is rather under than over the mark, as affairs now stand.

GEORGIA.

The following, I think, will be the cost of outfit for an immigrant planter with his family and one or two hands :

1 <i>good</i> mule,	\$175 00 to \$225 00
1 turn plow and stock	10 00
1 sweep " "	6 00
1 scooter (sweep stock used for scooter)	2 00
30 acres of land	80 00
1 cotton coverer	50
2 hoes	2 50
sundries	6 00

The price of corn varies from sixty cents in the early fall to \$1.25 before it is in again; average 75 to 80 cents. Fodder average \$1.00 per 100 lbs. As to provisions the price is controlled entirely by the price in the West.

The average cost of production, as estimated from our replies, is about twelve and one-half cents currency per pound. The average price of middling cotton in New York, for the cotton year, is about twenty-eight cents currency. [Gold has averaged about one dollar and forty cents.] Surely, such relative prices would promise a handsome margin for profit to the producer.*

We would suggest, as an addition to the outfit required, an annual subscription to some good farming journal (few can be better than the *Southern Cultivator*) and a copy of "Lyman on Cotton Culture."

Of course the emigrant, be he Northern or European, must not expect such success with his first crop as experience in cotton planting will bring; but the culture seems quite as simple as that of the small grains, its chief requisite being industrious application.

In choosing the portion of the country in which to settle, regard should be had to the healthiness of the climate and the advantages it offers for a home; the fertility of the soil, and its capacity for other crops than cotton, as well as for stock raising; nearness to market, and railway facilities; cheapness of the land, and the character of the titles. Emigrants would do well to settle in little colonies, buying large tracts, and dividing into farms to suit themselves, thus getting their land cheaper, and securing society and mutual protection.

* We think the foregoing instances show that one good hand can work ten acres in cotton, and that with proper culture and manure, an acre should yield a bale of 500 lbs. lint cotton — India raises 60 to 70 lbs. to the acre, and aspires to 120. [See appendix A.]

GENERAL REVIEW.

The condition of the South at the end of the war was in many ways melancholy to contemplate. Huge tracts of fertile land lying untilled and fruitless ; great streams with water-powers capable of turning the spindles for many a vast factory, flowing silent and useless to the sea ; great plantations, with their gins, houses, barns, fences and improvements of all kinds, gone to waste ; ruined cities, broken railways, whole populations disorganized ; trade at a stand-still ; law and order but a name ; laborers idle and vagrant. Such were some of the exhausting results of the great struggle for the maintenance and propagation of the institution which its defenders declared the corner-stone of any possible Southern prosperity. But the results of the years that have followed, tend to prove that however conscientiously believed in, and bravely fought for by its supporters, the institution of slavery was an economic mistake, and again and again has it been repeated to us by former slave-owners, "we would not have slavery again if we could."

A combination of influences, not likely again to recur, made the crop of '67-8 a failure, netted an average loss to the planter over the cost of production, and left him apparently crippled and helpless, — in many cases penniless. But this had one lucky result almost worth the cost ; almost, we might say, the one thing needful, to give the South a "clean slate and a fair start" ; it impaired seriously, if not fatally, the credit system of advances on crops, which has been the bane to planters and farmers South and West. Few factors would lend their money on what would have been once deemed the best security

with the chance of such severe losses as had been the rule that year. Many of the planters went into bankruptcy, and few of those that remained had credit on which to borrow. They began their crops therefore, perforce, *out of debt*, free from obligation to their factors, and with the control of their own crops.

We may well admire the pluck with which they went to work this year, when to the ruined fortunes and exhaustion caused by the war, were added the losses of a disastrous crop; but their good heart has won the graces of the fair lady, Dame Fortune.

The crop of 1868-9 has brought to the South a return of probably over two hundred and fifty million of dollars, surpassing even that from the great crop of 1859.

Probably never before has so large a proportion of the average net value of the crop come back, as it should, to the producer's pocket, including the laborer who shared with the land owner, and so little, comparatively, into the claws of the middle men, the factors, dealers and speculators.

In former times much, perhaps most, of this return, would have been locked up, and so on year by year, in the purchase of more slaves; funded property increasing the wealth of the individual owner of the labor, but adding nothing to the labor supply of the country or its productiveness, and so nothing to the national prosperity. This year, and let us heartily hope in the years to come, the money will go to the construction of steamboats and railroads, canals and manufactories, to the building up of towns and cities, churches and schools, to investments in state and other securities for the building of levees and roads, bridges and other great public works, to improvements on farms and plantations, to the establishing of new houses of business

in the important centres ; all of which, by contributing to the solid comforts of the community, and by opening and perfecting the channels for trade and industry, encourage a wholesome growth of population, increase the value of land and the returns of labor, and so add in every way directly to the national wealth.

We see everywhere the signs of a new and better activity ; "labor," no longer a badge of servitude, grows each year in honor, and when we consider what the South has done these past two years, with great districts stripped of fences, railroads and dwellings by the ravages of war, with land worn out by successive croppings and badly tilled with inefficient labor, —if to the changes now going on in culture, improved tools and machinery, as well as the greater attention paid to other products than cotton, to manufactures and mineral and commercial resources, we add the growth of common schools, and their results, better self-government, state and national, there shines now before the Southern portion of our land a substantial prosperity to which their old was but a shadow.

APPENDIX.

Boston, July, 1869.

The following is a *partial* list of the correspondents to whom we are indebted for the information contained in our pamphlet, and in thanking them, as well as the many who did not wish their names made public, we would use the opportunity to say that we trust any seeming neglect on our part in replying to many letters, will find its apology in the fact that we have had to make this digest in the intervals of active business :

NAMES OF CORRESPONDENTS.

M. R. Boggs,	Selma,	Alabama.
Jabez Curoy,	Greensboro',	do.
George W. Foster, Jr.,	Florence,	do.
J. G. Gurce,	Enfaula,	do.
Luther S. Hill,	Montgomery,	do.
William B. Inge,	Forkland,	do.
L. F. Johnson,	Enfaula,	do.
Porter King,	Marion,	do.
Peter Lydon,	Macon Station,	do.
A. C. Mitchell,	Glenville,	do.
Benjamin H. Micon,	Montgomery,	do.
John Nininger,	do.	do.
Col. J. Moultrie,	Union Springs,	do.
John Nelson,	Macon Station,	do.
R. H. Powell,	Union Springs,	do.
James E. Saunders,	Courtland,	do.
H. A. Stollennerck,	Selina,	do.
J. H. G. Webb,	Greensboro',	do.
A. Murdock,	Mobile,	do.
J. C. White,	Huntsville,	do.
Brown, Begouen & Co.,	Mobile,	do.
Faust & Phillips,	Montgomery,	do.
James Marks & Co.,	do.	do.
W. W. Dugger,	Demopolis,	do.
S. S. Hill,	Montgomery,	do.
Price Williams,	Mobile,	do.
John H. Parish,	Greensboro',	do.
William A. Adams,	Roseville,	Arkansas.
J. H. Black, <i>Real Estate Agent</i> ,	Pine Bluff,	do.
R. B. Carlsee,	Devalls Bluff,	do.
Charles Chester,	Mt. Holly,	do.

Frank M. Marks,	Bradley,	Arkansas.
C. H. Whittemore,	Little Rock,	do.
James Lawson,	do. do.	do.
George M. Smith,	Pastoria,	do.
Merrill & Magill,	Camden,	do.
T. S. Noble,	Little Rock,	do.
John S. Dancy,	Tarboro',	do.
William H. Oliver,	Newbern,	North Carolina.
Thomas H. Atkinson,	Boon Hill,	do.
Edward E. Evans,	Society Hill,	do.
George Briggs,	Hamburg,	South Carolina.
J. L. Dixon, <i>Real Estate Agent</i> ,	Manning,	do.
F. H. Dominick,	Frog Level,	do.
Henry M. Miller,	Beaufort,	do.
B. F. Williamson,	Darlington, C. H.,	do.
H. G. Witherspoon,	Mayerville,	do.
John Witherspoon,	Society Hill,	do.
T. W. Woodward,	Winnsboro',	do.
D. C. Wolf,	Bell Air,	do.
Cohen, Hanckle & Co.,	Charleston,	do.
James G. Gibbs,	Columbia,	do.
Greene & Collins,	Georgetown,	do.
J. F. G. Mittag,	Lancasterville,	do.
Otto A. Moses,	Charleston,	do.
Tindall & Dixon,	Manchester,	do.
J. Edward Calhoun,	Abbeville, C. H.,	do.
D. J. Bradliam,	Manning P. O.,	do.
Robert Martin,	Milberry Landing,	do.
Dr. T. E. Powe,	Chesaw,	do.
Judge A. B. Greenwell,	Monticello,	Florida.
E. J. Harris,	Ocala,	do.
Chandler H. Smith,	Madison,	do.
William Bryan,	Greensboro',	Georgia.
W. B. Crawford,	Madison,	do.
William R. Manning,	Valdosta,	do.
William McKinley,	Milledgeville,	do.
E. McCroan,	Bethany,	do.
R. T. Lawton,	Ogeechee,	do.
Green Moore,	Greensboro',	do.
J. H. Echols,	Lexington,	do.
B. S. Dunbar,	Augusta,	do.
W. B. Crawford,	Madison,	do.
Epping, Hanserd & Co.,	Columbus,	do.

J. Sibley & Sons,	Augusta,	Georgia.
Edmunds, Gardner & Co.,	Savannah,	do.
Jas. F. Derer,	Van Wert,	do.
S. T. Jenkins,	Cuthbert,	do.
F. Cogin,	Augusta,	do.
McNeill, Wright & Sanders,	Louisville,	Kentucky.
DeBow's Review,	New Orleans,	Louisiana.
Elliot & McKeever,	do.	do.
W. C. Sibley,	do.	do.
Whiteman Bros.,	Bayou Sara,	do.
Samuel Simpson,	New Orleans,	do.
J. R. Jackson,	Clinton,	do.
Foster & Co.,	New Orleans,	do.
T. J. Monroe,	Clinton,	do.
W. H. Benjamin,	Illawarra P. O.,	do.
John Gibbons,	St. Helena Parish,	do.
W. L. McGary,	New Orleans,	do.
James E. Old,	Providence,	do.
D. S. Servis,	Waterproof,	do.
Louis Trage,	Blackplank Point,	do.
S. Archer,	Greenville,	Mississippi.
J. H. D. Bowmar,	Vicksburg,	do.
A. P. Barry,	Martinsville,	do.
L. W. Carraway,	Raymond,	do.
W. G. Carter,	Greenville,	do.
H. H. Chalmers,	Hernando,	do.
Stephen Daggett,	Pontotoc,	do.
H. O. Dixon,	Jackson,	do.
H. J. Johnson,	Leota Landing,	do.
Benjamin F. Martin,	Martinsville,	do.
T. A. Mitchell,	Natchez,	do.
H. A. Pope,	do.	do.
Joseph Rogers,	Hernando,	do.
C. F. Sherrod,	Columbus,	do.
G. A. Sykes,	Aberdeen,	do.
R. J. Turnbull,	Skepworth Landing,	do.
J. M. Wallace,	Como,	do.
E. B. Willis,	Vicksburg,	do.
U. W. Moffett,	Bolton's Depot,	do.
S. G. French,	Greenville,	do.
E. F. McGehee,	Como,	do.
Wirt Adams,	Vicksburg,	do.
Isaac W. Burch,	Fayette,	do.

William Howe,	Como,	Mississippi.
E. W. Hilgard,	Oxford,	do.
M. W. Phipps,	Chatawa,	do.
J. M. Wesson,	Wesson,	do.
D. S. Pattison,	Port Gibson,	do.
William H. Garland,	Summit,	do.
Parkinson & Barnes,	Port Gibson,	do.
John C. Humphreys,	do.	do.
F. Y. Ulen,	Greenville,	do.
Dr. C. M. Vaiden,	Vaiden,	do.
E. Q. Bell,	New York,	New York.
Orlando Dorsey,	do.	do.
W. T. Miller,	do.	do.
Hope & Co.,	do.	do.
Farmington & Howell,	Memphis,	Tennessee.
J. B. Kirkland,	do.	do.
Benjamin Babb,	do.	do.
W. Y. Elliott,	Murfreesboro,	do.
B. L. Armstrong,	Memphis,	do.
T. L. Biles & Co.,	do.	do.
Thomas E. Jones,	Huntingdon,	do.
William Kelsee & Co.,	Columbia,	do.
Maney, Black & Co.,	Murfreesboro,	do.
Joseph R. Mosby,	Sommerville,	do.
W. H. Salerkile,	do.	do.
I. M. Shelby,	Bartlett,	do.
J. G. Shepherd,	Milan,	do.
Ezekiel Thomas,	Huntingdon,	do.
J. L. Varney,	Murfreesboro,	do.
Andrew J. Fletcher,	do.	do.
H. C. Edington,	Bryan City,	Texas.
J. W. Forsgard,	Courtney,	do.
B. C. Johnson,	San Marcos,	do.
R. M. Powell,	Montgomery,	do.
J. W. Speight,	Waco City,	do.
H. Stevens,	Columbia,	do.
R. M. McCright,	Lockhart,	do.
J. H. Metcalf,	Galveston,	do.
C. B. Stewart,	Montgomery,	do.
Jonas Johnson,	Plantersville,	do.
J. W. Forsgard,	Courtney,	do.

APPENDIX A.

INDIA.

As an answer to the question of how formidable a rival India is to the United States as a cotton producer for the world, we ask attention to the following, taken from a lecture delivered before the American Geographical and Statistical Society, by Edward Atkinson, Esq., in 1865, to which the author has kindly added a postscript :

India, the land of great promise but of little performance. She has given England during the war a little over a million bales, per annum, of short, rough and dirty fibre, and seems to have reached her limit.

In consequence of the decline of American cotton to thirteen pence last spring, the crop of India cotton is already diminished. The theoretic crops of five and six million bales, prove to have no existence in fact, or, at least, if made, are nearly all required for their 180,000,000 of people.

The truth is, India is not a true cotton country ; her crop is only thirty to one hundred pounds, per acre. Exotic seed does not produce thrifty plants for more than one year, and in the face of our competition India must go back to its former insignificance.

India cotton can be used for coarse yarns, and a much larger proportion has always been spun in Germany, where labor is abundant and cheap ; but with the scarcity of labor prevailing in Lancashire, spinners will be forced to use our cotton, or lose their operatives.

The Manchester Cotton Supply Association laments over the misgovernment of India, and in truth one can hardly realize in this country the obstinacy with which her land tenure is kept almost unaltered ; but a change of government cannot change climate and soil, nor can it under a century or two, change the character of the Hindoo people.

In 1857 Great Britain consumed of American Cotton	. 627,198,000 lbs.
In 1860 . . . . .	. 956,894,000 "
Increase . . . . .	. 329,796,000 lbs.

In 1860 Great Britain consumed of other sorts than									
American	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	126,706,000 lbs.
In 1864, only	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	491,147,470 "
Increase	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	<u>364,441,470 lbs.</u>

So, it appears that under the stimulus of war prices the increase of supply was but little more than the increased want, even had America maintained an average crop of 4,000,000 bales.

In 1860 the total supply of all Europe was 1,797,400,000 pounds, of which we furnished eighty-seven and one-half per cent, at an average cost of eleven and one-half cents per pound, equal to a little over \$200,000,000.

In 1864 the total supply of Europe was 928,896,810 pounds, of which we furnished only eight per cent. The cost was forty-four cents per pound, equal to \$400,000,000.

In 1850 the weekly consumption of cotton in England was 29,125 bales, of which 20,767 were American, 3,310 Brazilian, 1,542 Egyptian, 3,385 East Indian, 121 Various.

In 1860 this weekly consumption was 48,523, of which 41,094 was American, 2,164 Brazilian, 1,804 Egyptian, 3,340 East Indian and 121 Various.

Thus it appears, that the immense increase in English manufacture depended on America.

And gentlemen, let me say one word here upon the mutual dependence of England and the United States. We are justly incensed against England, but our anger should not be against the English. The people of England, the great masses, are our friends.

They need our cotton and our grain ; we need many of their manufactures. With peace between us the wages of the two countries will become equal by the rise in England. If we war with them, we aid the class who are our enemies, and give them a new lease of power, and we injure our friends.

Instead of cherishing our anger, would it not be far more magnanimous to revise the laws of neutrals, the maritime law, and let it now be declared that private property is exempt from seizure upon the sea ? Would not this be a vast step in the path of civilization, a real progress of ideas ?

Since the foregoing was written in 1865, there has been a moderate increase in the supply of India cotton, and some further improvement in the staple — induced by better methods of cultivation, irrigation — but more than all else, from the use of better gins and greater care in the process of ginning, in which our southern friends may well learn a useful lesson.

But at the same time, it has become evident that the cultivation of cotton, both in India and in Egypt, has trenched dangerously upon the food crops,

and it is not to be expected that any further increase can be expected from either country in the face of a probable steady decline in the cost of raising, and in the selling price of the American crop.

As still further evidence, we copy the concluding sentences of Cassel's "Cotton in the Bombay Presidency," an official report on the capacities of India for cotton raising, published in 1862. They are very striking as showing the opinions of an English official, after a careful and elaborate study of the subject.

It is important that the actual position of India, in regard to cotton supply, should be clearly defined. The pleasant illusion of a temporary demand must not be allowed to conceal the less agreeable features of sober reality.

The expenditure of some lakhs of rupees in cotton experiments, and the experience of a century of the cotton trade, have at least furnished data for distinct conclusions, and it is now time that the case should be rightly understood.

Leaving the other Presidencies to speak for themselves, the following results are clearly deducible from the facts of cotton cultivation in Bombay :

Exotic cotton cannot be successfully cultivated on a large scale in the Bombay Presidency, except in a limited portion of its southern districts.

Indian cotton may be improved in cleanness, and somewhat reduced in cost, but the general characteristics of its staple will not be materially altered.

In so far as this quality of cotton is serviceable to the manufacturers of England, India can compete with America ; but if a finer description be required, India cannot adequately supply it.

Unless, therefore, such alterations in machinery can be devised as may render the manufacturer indifferent to length and fineness of staple, and of the probability of this others must judge, India is not likely to replace the United States.

It seems evident, then, that India cotton must continue to hold a subordinate place in European markets, and there is a point at which its competition with other growths entirely ceases.

The following article from the Cotton Supply Reporter, of Manchester, England, of July 1, 1869, indicates the slight progress made in India after eight years of insufficient supply of cotton.

That it yet remains to increase the crop from 60 to 120 lbs. per acre, is of itself sufficient proof of the hopeless nature of the attempt to supplant American cotton by increasing the India crop.

We are glad to find that India as a cotton field has recently been attracting special attention, and that the best means of making its resources available have been freely canvassed. Not only in London and Manchester, but in the various towns in Lancashire, now subject to heavy losses and privations on account of the scarcity of cotton, has the question of obtaining speedy and larger supplies been anxiously discussed. The operatives and their employers have alike taken up the subject, commencing, it is true, in several instances with an attack upon the duties now levied on manufactured goods going into India, but advancing by necessity to the more pressing and important object of promoting an increased production of cotton. In the discussion of this question, and after a careful consideration of the various countries to which we can look for relief, India is admitted on all hands to be the chief source upon which we must depend. The great practical inquiry, then, is how can we most speedily and effectually increase the production of cotton in India, and with whom does it rest to devise and carry out the necessary measures? An answer, we think, may be gathered from the discussions at the Society of Arts, London, and the lecture delivered in the Town Hall, Manchester both of which are reported in our other columns. The difficulty arising from scarcity of labor which is so formidable an obstacle to the increased cultivation of cotton in other countries does not exist in India, the population is ample and docile, and there appears to be no sufficient reason why the present production should not be doubled, and that too within a comparatively short period. *This would be done, and without extending the area planted with cotton, if instead of 60 lbs. we could increase the yield to 120 lbs. per acre,* a result which it does not seem extravagant to expect. The demands made upon Government are not unreasonable, whilst the advantages anticipated are incalculable,—a department of agriculture to furnish practical and scientific instruction, and the adoption of measures for increasing the productiveness of the soil,—an adequate system of irrigation so essential to the comfort and maintenance of the people,—and ample means for conveying the produce to market. The first of these requisitions, the establishment of a department of agriculture, would show the ryots, both by means of model farms and direct teaching, the best methods of cultivation, would aid them to provide manures and to make such a selection of seed as might be calculated to improve the quality and increase the quantity of their crops. Works of irrigation would not only tend to prevent the recurrence of famines, which have been so disastrous, but would greatly increase the produc-

tiveness of the soil. Colonel Kennedy pointed out that a plentiful supply of water might thus readily be obtained for this vast country and be available for irrigation by means of "the drainage basins of the Indus in the north-west, the Ganges in the northeast, and the Godavery and other rivers which cross the peninsula in its southern divisions, from the high ridge of hills near the western coast to its eastern shores." Then again, improved roads and additional railways are urgently needed, and the want of them must tend greatly to diminish the growth of cotton and other products. This was specially dwelt upon in the discussion at the Society of Arts, and the absence of internal communication and the difficulties experienced in the transport of cotton were shown to have hindered its cultivation. These specific measures may surely be urged upon the attention of Government, and considering the value of the cotton trade to India and its importance to this country the expenditure of £1,000,000 a year on railways, £1,000,000 on irrigation works, and £50,000 on agricultural education for the development of the vast resources of India would not be an unreasonable demand if, as Colonel Kennedy estimates, "the cultivable land of India might thus be extended to four times its present area and its produce be increased threefold, so that twelve times greater product might be derived." If those whose interests are so deeply involved, whether as operatives or their employers, were to bring their influence to bear upon their representatives in Parliament, the pressure upon the Government would be such as to prevent any further neglect of the capabilities of India, and whilst agitating for a repeal of the Indian tariff, their attention should with still more earnestness be directed to the more important object of obtaining increased supplies of cotton. In this way they might render the most efficient assistance. So long, however, as there is indifference on the part of the manufacturers, and indisposition to make exertions to help themselves, we cannot wonder that apathy should prevail elsewhere. The Government, we venture to believe, will not resist any reasonable appeals that may be made, the readiness with which the Duke of Argyll acceded to the request of the Cotton Supply Association to advance £10,000 to provide fresh seed for Khandeish is highly gratifying, and his grace assured a recent deputation that the Government were taking active steps both directly and indirectly to encourage the growth of cotton in India. A telegram received from the Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces and the Berars, conveys the gratifying intelligence that three assistants have been appointed to superintend three experimental seed gardens, near Hingunghat, Oomrawuttee, and Akola, the two former to be 50 acres each, and the latter not less than 100 acres, where experiments with well selected native seed will be tried, upon the most approved methods, in accordance with the suggestions of Major Trevor Clarke and others. Not only by sanctioning this important step has the present Governor-General, Lord

Mayo, shown the great interest which he is taking in the improvement and extension of cotton cultivation in India, but we have the satisfaction to learn that he has also approved of the construction of a short railway of about eight miles from the Great Indian Peninsula line near Jullum to Khangaon, where a large cotton market has sprung up, from which are now sent at least 80,000 bales a year. This branch will greatly facilitate the access of European buyers to that market, and bring the purchasers at once into personal treaty with the cotton cultivators. These measures, the result of a conference with Mr. Rivett Carnac, cotton commissioner, to which Lord Mayo invited him for the purpose of determining the best mode of operations, will give additional vigor to the active exertions of the Commissioner, and aid him in his arduous duties. It is gratifying to be able to report that the Khandeish, Hinghungat, and Oomrawuttee cottons now rank amongst the first for quality in India. If, under the administration of the Duke of Argyll as Secretary of State for India, and the Earl of Mayo as Governor General, the measures recommended, and which we believe will prove successful, shall be vigorously carried out, there are better days in store for India and the prospect of increased trade for Lancashire. We must, however, continue to agitate and to use the necessary pressure until we obtain all we desire.

The prices obtainable for American and Indian cottons will show, to a certain extent, the relative estimation in which they are held by consumers. The quotations which succeed are taken from the Liverpool circular of June 17, 1869, and are for the grades most nearly comparable.

New Orleans Middling	.	.	.	.	11 7-8d.
Mobile	"	.	.	.	11 3-4d.
Upland	"	.	.	.	11 3-4d.
Surats, Dhollarahs, fair	.	.	.	.	10d.
Surats, Dharwars, fair	.	.	.	.	9 7-8d.
Madras, fair	.	.	.	.	9 3-4d.
Bengal, fair	.	.	.	.	8 1-4d.

American cotton is rapidly recovering its position of supremacy. "In 1864, the actual total average weekly consumption of Great Britain was 30,852 bales, of which 3,052 bales only came from the United States. In 1868, the amount consumed weekly was 53,880 bales, of which 21,390 bales were

American."* If this can be done after supplying 18,000 bales per week for home consumption, with a social revolution going on, with the prostration resulting from a great war carried on on the cotton fields themselves, what can we *not* expect in the future, when free labor becomes abundant, and the vast extent of southern arable lands are brought under thorough cultivation? The capacity of the Southern States for cotton raising is, virtually, only limited by the amount of available labor.

APPENDIX B.

MANUFACTURING.

The effects of the great profits from the last crop, 1868-9, which was less mortgaged than any previous crop for a number of years, and which amounted to \$200,000,000 or more, are seen in increased demand for local securities, in the construction of new railroads, in internal improvements, and in increased manufacturing interests of the south. Manufacture near production is always the wealth of a neighborhood. Hitherto, owing to slavery always necessitating an agricultural community, the cotton manufactures of the south bear at present but a small proportion to the total in the United States. Out of 548 mills, containing 5,968,000 spindles, and consuming 371,688,716 pounds of cotton, reported to the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers and Planters, only 69 mills, 199,772 spindles, consuming 28,042,766 pounds were in the Southern States. The southern mills make coarser goods than the northern, their average number of yarn being 12 7-8 and 27 7-8 respectively.†

* From the Report of B. F. Nourse, Esq., Honorary Commissioner from the United States to the Paris Exposition of 1867.

† Supplementary report of the Association, containing returns up to October 1, 1868.

The advantages of manufacturing at the south and near the cotton fields are

1. Plenty of cheap water power in every Southern State.†

† We have received many accounts of mill rights and water power, but there is only one of which we will speak in detail, — the Millwood Estate, lying in Abbeville County, South Carolina, and in Georgia, on the Savannah and Rocky Rivers, 60 miles above Augusta, Ga. It contains 10,400 acres, with water power which could be multiplied to hundreds of feet of fall and hundreds of miles of mill-race. The Savannah now spanned by this estate is half a mile wide.

The owner of the estate offers to sell it for an annuity, and writes us as follows :

“ Here is verge for untold millions, ready for immediate development into the grandest enterprise of the kind in the world, overwhelming in its influence, and affording the base for expansion to any extent. I would be willing to sell separately, as the river divides. The Georgia side with say, 2,400 acres, 120 feet fall, 7 miles water-power. The Carolina side, with say 8,000 acres, 150 feet fall, 12 miles water-power, river coast, besides the creeks. After payment of the first annuity, all subsequent ones will be easily provided for by the estate itself, in several ways : from rent of the lands, of the gold mines, from lumber, furnishings to the railroads, etc., leaving intact profits from the water-power, sale of town lots and the like. Take the first mode : I rent for the fourth of the cotton and the third of everything else, all to be hauled and put into the buildings I designate, by my tenants, who are bound to send to my gin, mills, tan-yard, thresher, smith-shop, employ my boats, etc. Since the Blue Ridge Railroad will come along by the time the estate is fairly started, and make provisions more abundant and cheaper than anywhere else, afforded to a manufacturing population, the estate can be devoted mainly to raising cotton. Counting the crop as only 12,000 bales, at \$100, the fourth of that for rent, and the twelfth for ginning, after satisfying the annuity, will give a sum perhaps larger than the company would lay out for improvements the current year. But my cotton sold since the 1st of January, averaged \$141 the bale, and other rent items are not considered. By next October full preparation may be made here for spinning as much of the present crop as is in convenient reach. And this can be done by my own freed people, tenants on the estate, at one third wages paid with you, for superior mechanics, and one-fourth wages for as many of the others as may be wanted. I had twenty-seven prime hands who never struck a lick in the crop, mechanics of all trades. The river has the characteristics of a moun-

2. A mild climate, avoiding the expense of fires for heating purposes, except for a small portion of the year, as well as the freedom from danger, from frost, and consequent ability to build lighter earthworks for canals, etc. 3. Low wages and plenty of operatives, men and women, who would not think of working as laborers in the field, will gladly become "hands" in a mill. 4. * Saving in transportation and commission on both goods and raw material, buying the latter at the point of production, while a market for goods is to be had at the same place. Even if the yarns are exported, freights are lower for yarns than a corresponding amount of cotton lint, and also the bagging and rope are saved as well as freight on the same.

Col. J. B. Parmer gave the following figures, showing the advantages of southern over northern manufacture, taken from the books of the Saluda Cotton Mills.

Report in the "Columbia Daily Phoenix" of an Agricultural Convention, held in that city on April 28, 1869 :

It must be recollected that we have employed in the manufacture of No. 20 yarn only 4,000 spindles (Jenks' ring travelers). Of course, a greater

tain stream. Stockholders would be tempted to build on the wooded promontories, jutting over limpid waters, foaming among rocks and fanned by westerly breezes, throughout the summer. This is a region in which to grow old comfortably."

* Southern manufacturers have this great advantage over northern competitors. The reduced cost of transportation enables them to buy their cotton in the seed. This works for the advantage of both planter and spinner. The planter can put all his hands into the fields to pick, and gather his crop earlier and more of it. The spinner can separate the seed from the lint at the mill, using improved machines, unlimited steam power, and *skilled labor* in the ginning, which, though perhaps the most important process of manufacture, is at present left to rude field hands. Every fibre of cotton that will spin can thus be sorted and saved from the trash, and the seed can either be returned to the planter, or sold to be manufactured into oil and oil-cake.

number of spindles, or the production of yarns of a lower number, would ensure a less cost per pound :

Labor—Superintendent, 37 ; carding, 56 ; spinning, 76 ; reeling, 75,	\$2 44
Repair—Labor and material (machinery nearly new)	22
Packing, bundling, etc., labor and materials	58
General Expenses—Watch, 13 ; hauling, 32 ; findings, 20 ; oil, 15 ; salaries, 64 ; miscellaneous, 56	2 00
Total per pound	\$5 24
Add—Loss by waste (450 lbs. cotton, costing \$90, making but 400 lbs. of yarn)	2 50
Ten per cent for wear and tear of machinery, charged to production, per pound	1 26
Total cost of manufacturing cotton, worth 20c. per pound	\$9 00
Freights to New York or Philadelphia, 65c., insurance 15c.	80
Cost cotton per pound	20 00
Total cost per pound of Southern yarn (No. 20,) delivered in New York	\$29 80

The <i>very lowest</i> estimate I have seen of the cost of manufacturing at the North, places cost of labor, repair, packing, and general expenses at per pound	\$10 24
Loss by waste (cotton at 20c. in Columbia would be 22 1-2c. in New York ; therefore, 450 lbs. cotton would cost \$101.25, and would make 400 lbs. yarn)	2 81
Ten per cent for wear and tear machinery	1 26
Total cost of manufacturing in the North	\$14 31
Add cost of cotton	22 50
Cost of No. 20 yarns, manufactured at the North	36 81
Showing a difference in favor of the South, of per pound	7 01
Both using the same quality of cotton.	
Deduct commissions, cartage, etc.	2 01
And we have a net profit to the Southern manufacturer, provided he sells at the cost of Northern production	\$5 00

As further evidence of the profits of southern cotton manufacturing, we give below an account of six months' work of the Augusta Factory, one of the most successful of the south, from

the report of the President, Wm. E. Jackson, Esq., presented at the semi-annual meeting held June 30, 1868, in the City of Augusta, Georgia :

In presenting my twentieth semi-annual report, it is with pleasure I can state the condition of the Company is very favorable.

The gross earnings for the past six months have been						\$135,510	65
Interest Received						3,921	65
						<u>\$139,432</u>	30
From which is deducted Expense acc't,					\$8,731	64	
Repairs acc't,					3,475	11	
Taxes paid,					19,691	41	31,898 16

Leaving as net profits \$107,534 14

From which two dividends of 5 per cent each, amounting to \$60,000 have been paid, enabling us to carry to the credit of profit and loss account \$47,534.14, making the amount now to the credit of that account \$224,798.22.

Mr. Jackson goes on to speak of the result of the ten years work of the mill as follows :

It may not be uninteresting to some of our present stockholders to state what has been accomplished in the past ten years. It will be remembered by those who were among the original purchasers, that the property was purchased of the city for \$140,000 on ten years' credit, with interest at seven per cent payable semi-annually, and one-tenth of the principal annually, the purchasers paying in as commercial capital \$60,000. This amount, in consequence of the dilapidated condition of the property, was almost entirely expended in the first two years, in repairs rendered necessary by the then condition of the property.

We have, since the purchase, paid for the entire property without calling on the stockholders for another dollar ; added largely to the property by purchase and building, bought about \$100,000 worth of new machinery, increased the capital to \$600,000, by the addition of a portion of the surplus ; paid dividends regularly, and have now a property worth the par value (\$600,000) in gold.

APPENDIX C.

Table showing the numbers and nativities of alien emigrants who arrived at the Port of New York, in the years specified :

NATIONALITY.	1847.	1860.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
Ireland	52,946	47,330	70,462	68,047	65,134	47,571
Germany	53,180	37,899	83,451	106,716	117,591	101,989
England	8,864	11,361	27,286	36,186	33,712	29,695
Scotland	2,354	1,617	3,962	4,979	6,315	7,390
France	3,330	1,549	2,059	3,246	3,204	2,811
Switzerland	1,947	1,422	2,513	3,685	3,985	3,302
Holland	3,611	440	729	1,506	2,156	1,265
Wales	472	811	505	540	142	699
Norway	882	53	158	583	309	1,008
Sweden	139	361	2,337	3,907	4,843	14,520
Denmark	95	495	727	1,526	1,372	1,087
Other Nationalities	1,242	1,824	2,163	2,497	3,468	2,309
Total arrivals	129,862	1105,162	196,352	233,418	242,731	213,636

There was a decrease in the total number (for 1868) of 29,041 compared with 1867, but an *increase* over the average of twenty previous years, of 22,421 souls.

From May 5, 1847, to January 1, 1869, 4,038,991 emigrants arrived, of which one and one-half million were Irish and about the same number were Germans.

From 1855 to 1868 inclusive, 2,039,431 had an "avowed destination" ; of this number only 21,553 declared an intention of going to the cotton states, viz. :— Virginia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Texas, North Carolina, Mississippi and Arkansas. During the year 1868, there were 2,756 emigrants who gave their destination as one or the other of the ten cotton growing States. These figures although not show-

ing the number who actually went there, tend to show that the tide of emigration has not yet turned southward to any extent.

In the hope of finding that a difference would be found in the figures for this year, 1869, we applied for and obtained from the New York Commissioners of Emigration (to whom we are indebted for great courtesy shown us) full statistics, but were disappointed by finding that while the total number received in New York from January to June 21, 1869, was 131,234 (an increase of 32,581 souls, or thirty-three per cent), yet the number who proposed going southward was almost identically the same as during the same period of last year.

APPENDIX E.

TABLE OF MORTALITY.

Taken from United States Census, 1860.

SOUTHERN STATES.		NORTHERN STATES.	
States.	Population to one death.	States,	Population to one death.
Alabama	74	California	101
Arkansas	48	Connecticut	74
Florida	78	Delaware	89
Georgia	81	Illinois	87
Louisiana	57	Indiana	87
Mississippi	64	Iowa.,	92
North Carolina.....	84	Kansas	73
South Carolina.....	71	Maine	81
Tennessee.....	72	Massachusetts	57
Texas.....	63	Michigan	100
Virginia.....	70	Minnesota.....	153
		New Hampshire....	72
		New York	82
		Ohio	93
		Oregon	218
		Pennsylvania	95
		Rhode Island.....	69
		Vermont.....	92
		Wisconsin	107

EXTREMES OF HEAT.

	<i>New Orleans.</i>	<i>St. Louis.</i>		<i>New Orleans.</i>	<i>St. Louis.</i>
June . .	93.0	95.0	August .	94.0	95.0
July . .	94.6	98.0	September	92.0	92.5

Record of twenty years.

Average of each month.

TABLE OF MEAN SUMMER HEAT AT

Montreal, . . .	70.8	Augusta, Ga., . .	80.2
Fort Independence,		Mobile, . . .	82.2
Boston, . . .	68.6	New Orleans, . .	82.3
Fort Columbus, New		Natchez, . . .	79.9
York, . . .	72.1	Austin, Texas, .	80.7
Germantown, Pa., .	73.0	Fort Smith, Ark.,	77.6
Philadelphia, corner		Huntsville, Ala.,	75.6
2d and Dock Sts., .	80.3	Nashville, . . .	77.3
Baltimore . . .	73.6	Harmony, Ind., .	76.9
Frederick, Md., .	75.7	Milton, Ind., . .	78.4
Richmond, . . .	79.4	Athens, Ill., . .	76.2
Chapel Hill, N. C.,	76.3	Fort Madison, Iowa,	78.1
Camden, . C., . .	78.4	Memphis, Tenn., .	78.1

From Blodgett's Climatology of the United States.

APPENDIX F.

COPY OF INVOICE OF SALT ARRIVING IN BOSTON IN JUNE, 1869.

	£.	s.	d.
1,027 1-2 tons of common salt, at 4s. 6d. per ton	231	3	9
1 1-4 per cent discount	2	17	9
	<hr/>		
	£228	6	0

Charges.

	£.	s.	d.
Dock and town dues, 4 1-4d. per ton	18	3	11
Bill of lading	2	6	
Consul's certificate	12	6	
Mats for dunnage	11	7	0
River freight @ 3s.	154	2	6
	<hr/>		
	£184	8	5
	<hr/>		
	£412	14	5

@ 150 % gives	\$2,751	47
Freight from Liverpool to Boston	5,333	34
Boston wharfage	160	00
	<hr/>	
Turns out	\$8,244	81
	<hr/>	
4,000 hogsheads	\$2.122	¾ hhd. in bond,
Or	26½	cts. ¾ bush.

Duty 18 cents per 100 pounds, would give 11 1-2 cents, gold,
per bushel.

Through the politeness of Gen. Walker we are able to give the following :

Statement of Salt imported into the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1868.

	NORTHERN PORTS.		SOUTHERN PORTS.		RATE OF DUTY.	Est'd Duty on Imports.
	POUNDS.	DOLLARS.	POUNDS.	DOLLARS.		DUTY.
Salt in bulk,	274,106,569	368,874	22,183,195	39,494	@ 18 cts. & 100 lbs.	533,321 58
Salt in bags,	154,415,435	560,194	172,826,536	414,552	@ 24 " "	758,380 73
Total,	428,522,004	929,068	195,009,731	454,019		1,291,702 31

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF STATISTICS,
May 17, 1869.

FRANCIS A. WALKER,
Deputy Spec. Com. in charge.

APPENDIX G.

BOSTON, JULY 14, 1869.

MESSRS. LORING & ATKINSON :

Dear Sirs : It would appear from the replies to your circular that salt is one of the most essential ingredients in a good manure for cotton.

If quicklime is slacked with *very* salt water, it forms a "muriate of lime," and when applied to the compost heap, or the pile of rotting cotton seed, it will *not* drive off the ammonia as the caustic alkali or lime will if applied without the salt.

In order to make this cheap muriate of lime, the salt or brine from the domestic pork barrel may be used as far as it will go ; or, upon the coast, concentrated sea water may be used ; or crude salt may be obtained from the salt beds of Louisiana. For this purpose the refining process would be an entire waste.

In order to avoid the excessive duties upon foreign salt, might not salt be treated in a similar manner to the one adopted in England with alcohol, in order to save the excise tax ? I think it is called "methylating."

If Turks Island salt were mixed with lime made from the coral of which the islands are composed, might it not be entered as a manure free of duty ? Its value as salt would be destroyed. Or if treated with creosote or carbolic acid, it would not only cease to be salt and become a manure, but also an exterminator of grubs, boll worms, and all other noxious insects.

I make these suggestions without much chemical knowledge, and may have made some blunders. This much, however, is certain, that salt can be chemically treated at very little expense so as to change it from salt to an article fit only for manure, and as such entered free of duty.

E. A.

APPENDIX H.

It is said there is no possibility of gathering the cotton crop by any labor-saving *machine* ; that the human hand must gather that which the human eye judges fit for picking. But in one of our letters the picking of the whole crop at once is suggested at some season, near the first frost for instance, when the majority of the bolls should be at full maturity ; and it seems possible that a larger portion of the crop of a great plantation might be saved in this manner, and at less cost, — the cotton

plant being cut with a sickle close to the roots, and the bolls threshed off into a wagon which should make the circuit of the rows. The seeds, cotton and trash, thus collected, are then to be passed through a thresher or Van Winkle opener to remove the refuse dirt and trash, after which the gin would receive it, and fit it for market.

This method has, we believe, been put in practical operation by a skilful Arkansas planter for the balance of his crop after the first frost. On great plantations much more cotton might be planted than could be gathered in the ordinary way, and some such method be used with economy in the picking season, leaving more time for other crops.

APPENDIX K.

Table of the supply and consumption of cotton in all Europe and the United States, stated for a comparison of the three years, 1858-59 to 1860-61, with the two years, 1866-67 and 1867-68, the year ending August 31st in the United States, and September 30th, in Europe.*

YEARS.	Stocks at beginning of year. — Europe and United States.	Crops of United States.	Imports to Europe of other sorts.	Total Supply. — Europe and the United States.	Stocks at end of Season.	Consumption. — Europe and United States.	
	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	BALES.	POUNDS.
1858-59	746,000	4,019,000	841,000	5,606,000	900,000	4,706,000	1,976,520,000
1859-60	900,000	4,861,000	994,000	6,775,000	1,472,000	5,303,000	2,284,901,000
1860-61	1,472,000	3,850,000	1,058,000	6,380,000	1,112,500	5,267,500	2,212,350,000
1866-67	1,426,700	2,319,000	2,601,000	6,346,700	1,172,000	5,174,700	1,893,940,000
1867-68	1,172,000	2,600,000	2,550,000	6,322,000	651,400	5,670,600	2,094,105,000

* From the report lately issued of B. F. Nourse, Esq., Honorary Commissioner from the United States to the Paris Exposition of 1867.

While the number of *bales* consumed during the last year exceeds that of 1859-60 (the largest previous to the year 1867-68) by 387,600, the number of *pounds* consumed the last year was less than that of 1859-60 by 190,896,000, equal to 518,000 bales of the average weight of the last year. This exhibits the falling off in the average weight of bales since the proportion of American supply fell from seven-eighths to one-half of the whole supply.

The consumption of cotton in Europe and the United States during the last year, 1867-68, shows an increase upon the preceding year, 1866-67, of 495,900 bales, or 200,165,000 pounds.

APPENDIX L.

Cotton Crop of the United States for the years from 1822 to 1868 inclusive ; taken from the Cotton Statement of Messrs. Wm. P. Wright & Co., of New York :

Year.	Crop.	Year.	Crop.	Year.	Crop.
.....	.....	1850-1	2,355,257	.....	.....
1868-9 . . . .	.....	1849-50	2,096,706	1835-6	1,360,725
1867-8	2,498,895	1848-9	2,728,596	1834-5	1,254,328
1866-7	1,951,988	1847-8	2,347,634	1833-4	1,205,394
1865-6	2,151,043	1846-7	1,778,651	1832-3	1,070,438
1860-1	3,656,086	1845-6	2,100,537	1831-2	987,477
1859-60	4,675,770	1844-5	2,394,503	1830-1	1,038,848
1858-9	3,851,481	1843-4	2,030,409	1829-30	976,845
1857-8	3,113,962	1842-3	2,378,875	1828-9	857,744
1856-7	2,939,519	1841-2	1,683,574	1827-8	720,693
1855-6	3,527,845	1840-1	1,634,945	1826-7	957,281
1854-5	2,847,339	1839-40	2,177,835	1825-6	720,027
1853-4	2,930,027	1838-9	1,360,532	1824-5	569,249
1852-3	3,262,882	1837-8	1,801,497	1823-4	569,158
1851-2	3,015,029	1836-7	1,422,930	1822-3	495,000

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